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History of the Fort Wayne Fire Department

extracts from Fort Wayne, Indiana newspapers

compiled by Donald Allen Weber, Retired Fort Wayne Firefighter

indexed by Donald Allen Weber

Volume Three

01/02/1878 to 12/03/1886

Listed below are the names of some of the streets taken from the newspaper articles that have been changed since that time. The new names as we know them today are also listed.

Water Street is now — Superior Street

George Street is now — West Broadway Street

Hamilton Street is now — Main Street

Dawson Street is now — Williams Street

Holman Street is now — East Broadway Street

Montgomery Street is now — East Douglas Street

Griffith Street is now — Fairfield Avenue

Daryes Street is now — Poplar Street

Pritchard Street is now — Leona Street

Erie Street is now — East Berry Street

Thomas Street is now — Dwyer Avenue

Walton Avenue is now — Anthony Blvd.

The newspaper articles in these volumes were extracted and typed word for word including spelling as they were by the editors of the newspapers.

Listed below are the names of some of the streets taken from the newspaper articles that have been changed since that time. The new names as we know them today are also listed.

Water Street is now — Superior Street.

George Street is now — West Brackenridge Street.

Hamilton Street is now — Masterson Street.

Dawson Street is now — Williams Street.

Holman Street is now — East Brackenridge Street.

Montgomery Street is now — East Douglas Street.

Griffith Street is now — Fairfield Avenue.

Duryea Street is now — Poplar Street.

Pritchard Street is now — Lavina Street.

Erie Street is now — East Berry Street.

Thomas Street is now — Bowser Avenue.

Walton Avenue is now — Anthony Blvd.

Some neighborhoods in Fort Wayne, Indiana in the 1800's had names such as: Ewingtown, Frenchtown, Gooseville, Irishtown, Mechanicsburg and South Wayne.

Listed below is the location of these areas.

Ewingtown: All west of the old plat was called Ewingtown.

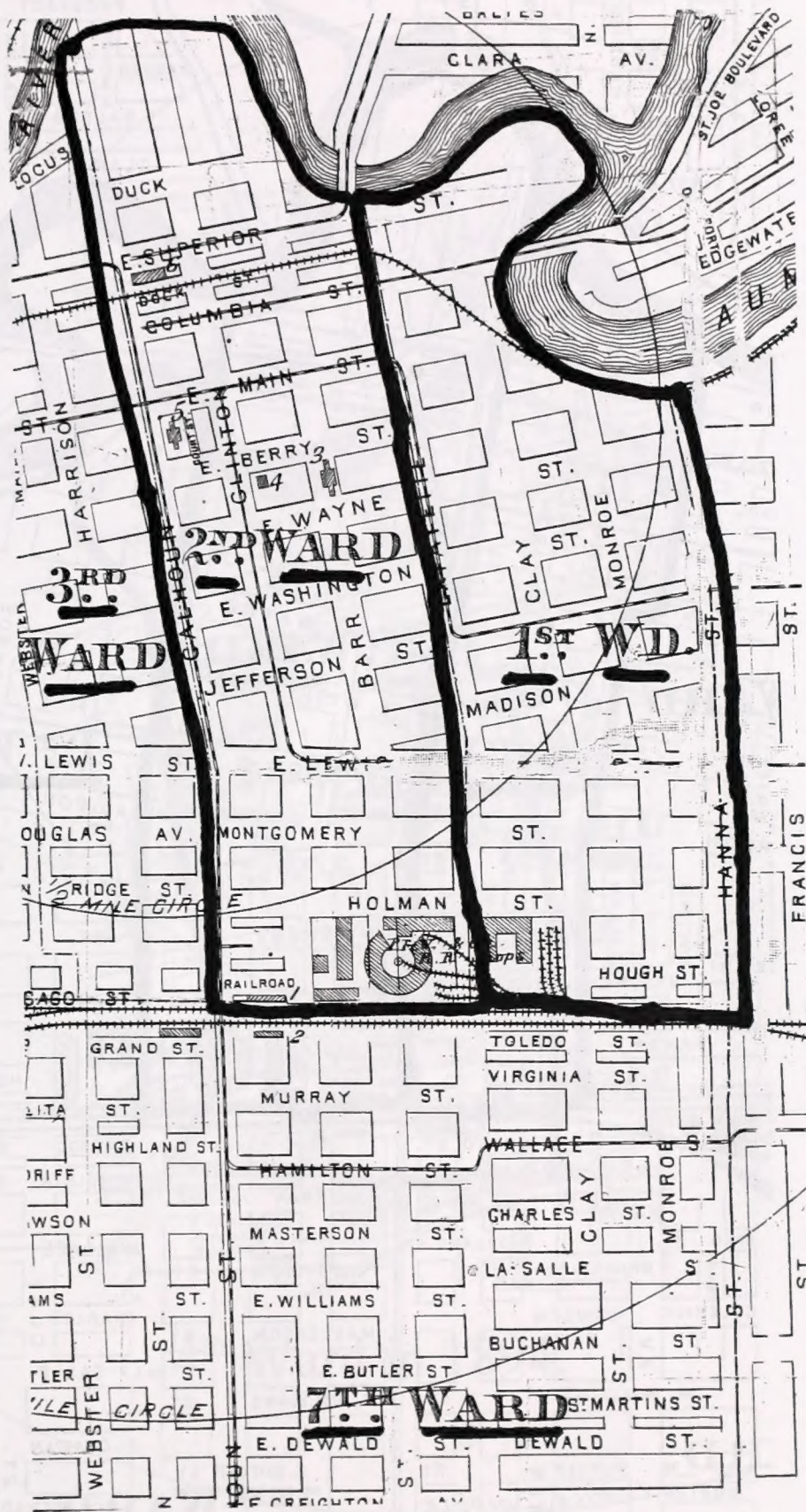
Frenchtown: Rural districts of the Seventh Ward. The seventh ward fire engine house was located at 436 East Wallace Street.

Gooseville: Just South of the railroad tracks, Hoagland Street on the East, Fairfield Avenue on the West and Dawson Street (Williams) on the South.

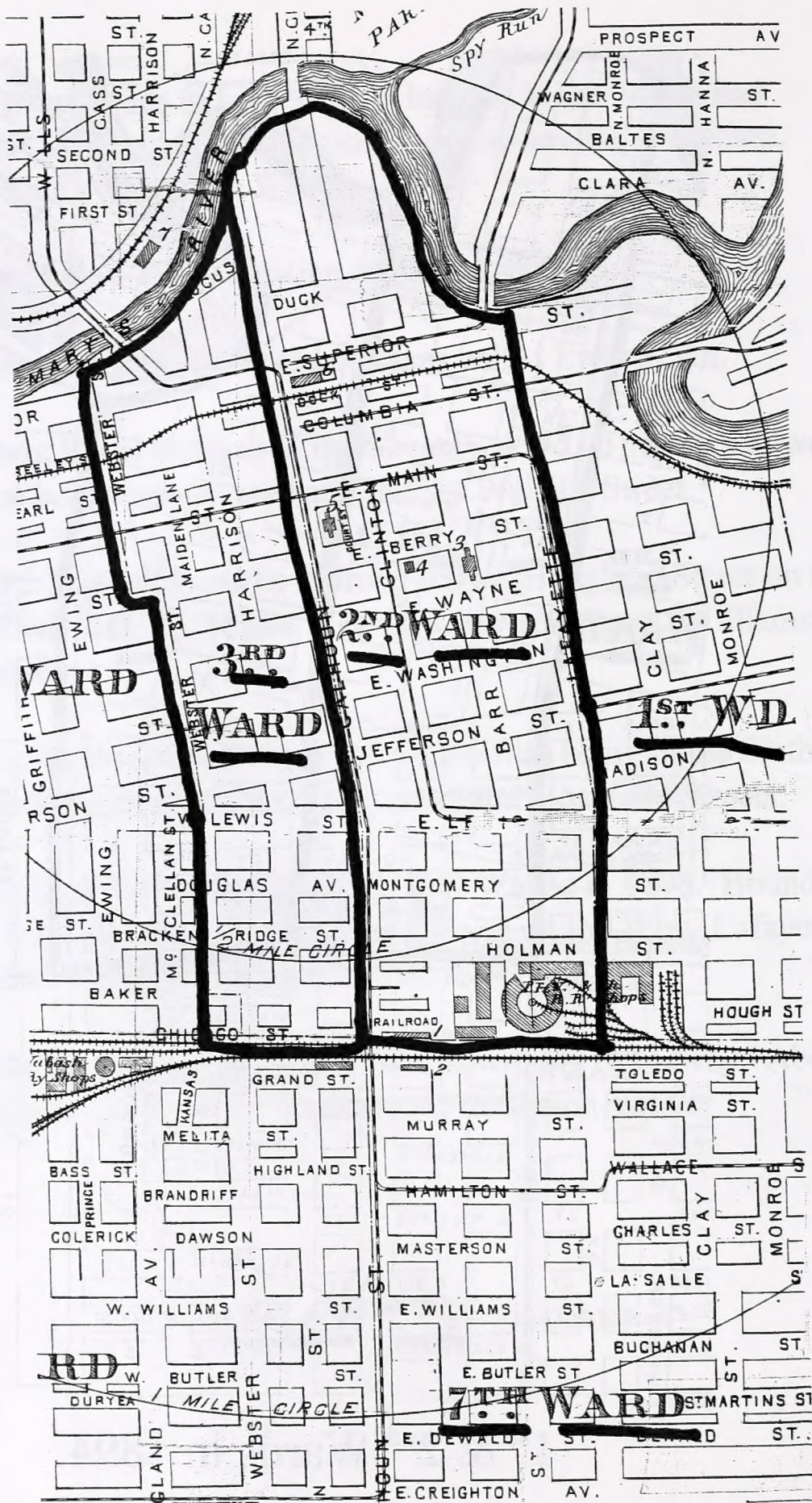
Irishtown: Reference was made to Irishtown as being in the Sixth Ward near the corner of Duryea (Poplar) and Hoagland Streets.

Mechanicsburg: Shown on a map of Fort Wayne in 1898. Bounded by Leith Street on the North, Calhoun Street on the West, Lafayette Street on the East, and Killea Street on the South.

South Wayne: Area Southwest of downtown, off Broadway. About two to three miles south of Broadway & Jefferson streets.



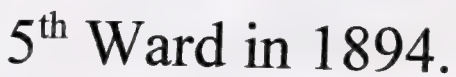
1st & 2nd Wards in 1894.



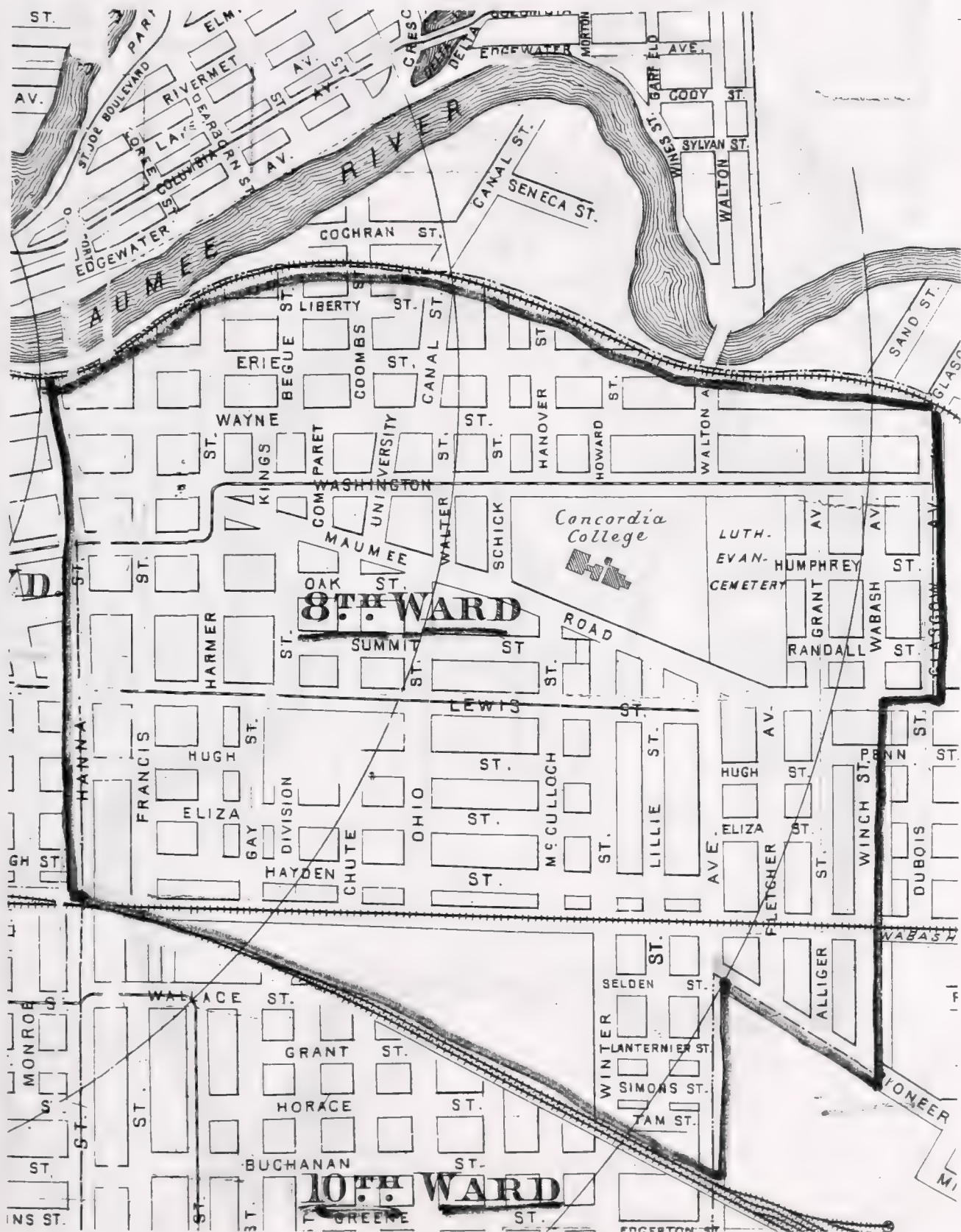
2nd & 3rd Wards in 1894.



4th Ward in 1894.



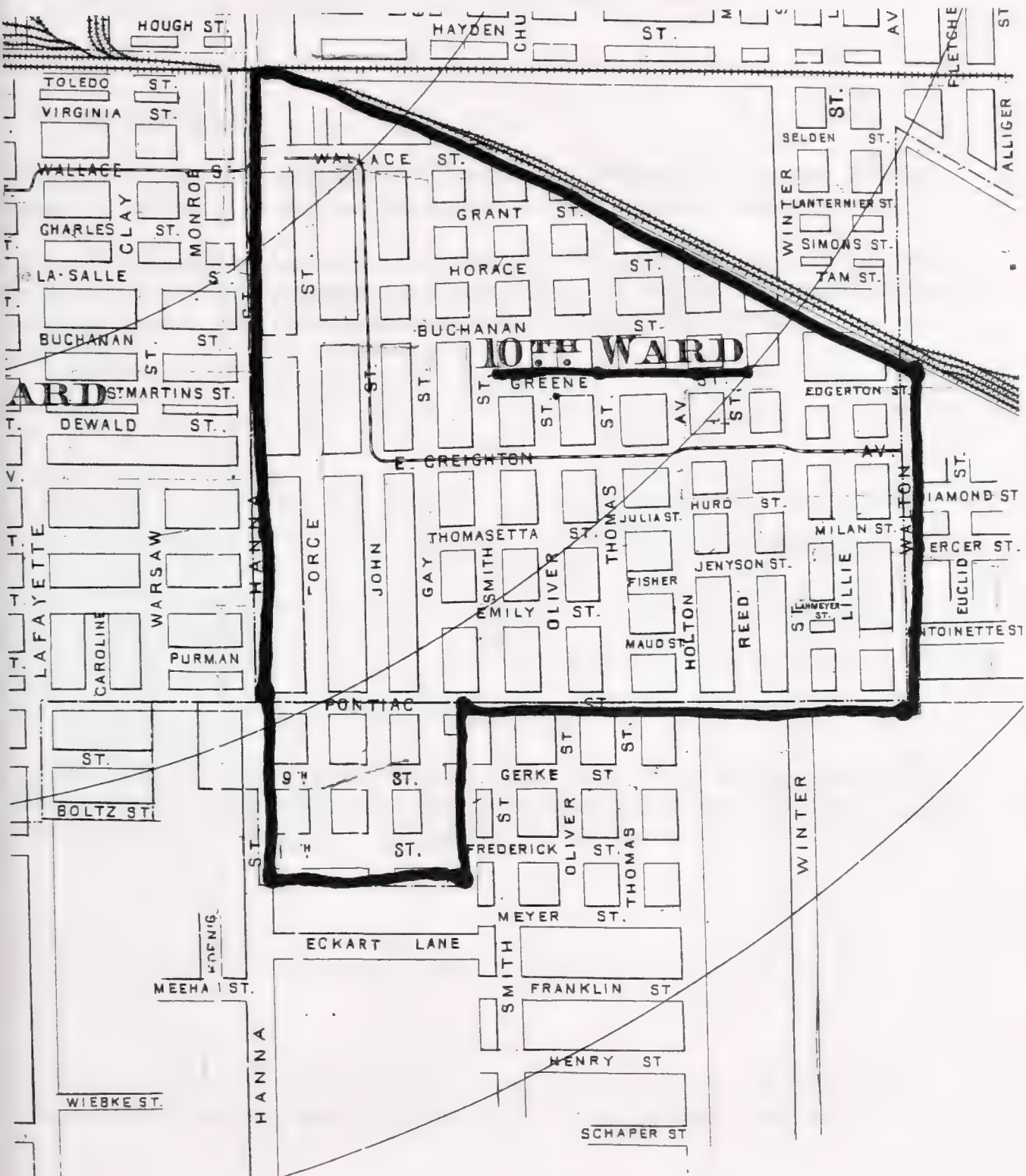
5th Ward in 1894.



8th Ward in 1894.



9th Ward in 1894.



10th Ward in 1894.

TWO ALARMS OF FIRE.

The alarm from Box 3-5, on Monday night, was turned in doubtless for the purpose of breaking up the Torrent Ball. It was a failure from that point of view. The alarm was a false one.

About 6 o'clock yesterday morning an alarm was sounded from Box 5-2, caused by the burning of the fence and out houses connected with George F. Schott's Drug Store at the corner of Barr and Washington Streets. The blaze was extinguished with merely nominal loss.

OTHER SOCIAL NOTES.

The Torrent ball at Armory Hall on Monday evening was a pleasant and successful affair in every respect. The attendance was very large and the Torrents netted over \$200 from the affair. They are the boys who know how to manage a ball in first class style.

The alarm of fire at 6:20 this morning was caused by the burning of a chimney at No. 139 Francis street. Value of property involved, \$1,000.000; loss, 10 cents; no insurance.

AN ORDINANCE. Introduced by C. Hettler.

Declaring it unlawful for any other persons than firemen to ride or hang upon any fire apparatus going or returning from any fire, and declaring an emergency.

Section 1. Be it ordained by the common council of the city of Fort Wayne, that it shall be unlawful for any other persons than members of the fire department of said city, to ride upon or hang on any engine, hook and ladder truck, hose carriage or other fire apparatus while going to or returning from any fire, or fire alarm.

Sec. 2. Any person violating any provision of this ordinance shall upon conviction forfeit and pay a fine to the said city of Fort Wayne of not less than one dollar or more than ten dollars.

Sec. 3. Whereas an emergency exist for the immediate taking effect of this ordinance the same shall be in force from and after its passage.

Done at the council chamber in the city of Fort Wayne, this 13th day of November, 1877.

BLAZING BARNs A BRILLIANT MIDNIGHT ILLUMINATION, LOSS \$2000.00.

Last night at 12:15 an alarm was turned in from Box 1-5, caused by the discovery of a fire in the barn of Dr. C. S. Smith at No. 38 Douglas Ave. The fire had acquired some headway when the alarm was sounded, and the church spires and steeples reflected the light from the brilliant illumination. The department hastened to the scene and did very effective service. The flames spread rapidly and soon four or five frame buildings were being consumed. The fire originated in Dr. Smith's two story frame barn, which was entirely destroyed together with three vehicles and other contents. Loss \$700.00. The next building to succumb was the two-story frame barn of James Ryan, No. 164 Harrison Street, which with the contents was valued at \$1000.00. Mr. Ryan's loss is \$500.00. A two-story frame building at 41 Lewis Street, belonging to John Baumann, was consumed, together with a pile of wood. Loss, \$200.00. At 48 Lewis Street a shed containing wood, the property of Henry Waltermuth was destroyed. His loss is \$100.00. Dr. T.P. McCullough's frame barn at No. 36 Douglas Avenue containing, hay and grain, was also taken by the flames. His loss is \$600.00. The total loss was about \$2,100. None of the losers had insurance except Dr. McCullough, who had a \$300.00 policy in the Watertown Co., on his barn. The origin of the fire is unknown but it is ascribed to incendiarism.

The next day's paper read: Three fire cisterns were emptied by the department at the blaze last night.

The gentlemen who favor the purchase of a new steamer have made a great mistake in getting the News to urge that measure. The support of the News would kill almost anything. If that paper had opposed the scheme it would probably have been carried— at least it would doubtless have received more than six votes.

The city council exhibited wisdom, common sense and prudence in not allowing itself to be bulldozed into the purchase of a new steamer. A petition was presented, signed by a number of leading business firms and heavy tax payers, asking the council to purchase a new engine. The signers doubtless labor under the impression that the fire department cannot be rendered efficient unless another engine is bought. But whether such a purchase is made or not, the old steamers should be repaired. It will take no longer to repair them than to obtain a new one. Mr. Kerr Murray, a citizen of responsibility and character, says that he can render these old steamers just as good as new, and gives a good bond for \$2,000 to do so. If, after they are rebuilt, there shall seem to be a necessity for a new steamer, there will be no opposition to its purchase. But we are glad to see that twelve councilmen refuse to be “bulldozed,” as it were, into voting for the expenditure of \$5,000 or \$6,000 when there is no present necessity for doing so.

The alarm of fire from box 3-5 at 2:30 this afternoon was caused by the burning out of a chimney at the residence of A. J. Lang, No. 236 West Wayne Street. No damage done.

The alarm of fire from box 6-2 at 5:45 last evening was caused by a blaze in the house occupied by Justice Ryan, No. 63 East Jefferson Street. The fire originated from the furnace and did about \$50.00 damage. Fully insured.

A CARD OF THANKS

To the editor of the Sentinel:

The fire department of Fort Wayne will please accept thanks for their promptness and carefulness at the fire at my residence last evening, and also the neighbors for their valuable assistance.

D. Ryan January 10, 1878.

THE FIRE LAST NIGHT.

The alarm of fire from box 5-2, at 12 o'clock last night, was caused by a blaze in Swinney's block on East Main street. The fire appeared to have originated in the partition wall between the office of the Citizen's Street Railway Company and the hall on the second floor, and ascended to the office of the Fort Wayne Conservatory of Music on the third floor. Water was soon obtained and the fire extinguished. As it is, the loss is trifling; but, if the flames had obtained a little more headway, the entire block would doubtless have been destroyed. The losses are estimated as follows: Citizens' Street Railway Company, \$75, no insurance; C. F. W. Meyer, \$50, insured for \$2,000 in Isaac d'Isay's agency; J. C. Marks & Co., \$75, insured for \$2,000 in the Etna, Fisher & Tons; Swinney estate on building, \$100, insured for \$15,000 in the Hartford, F. P. Randall agent. Chief Vogel ascribes the fire to incendiaries.

Peter Barbier, an old citizen, died today. He had been a member of the ALERTS for many years.

The special committee appointed to report on the necessity of purchasing a new steamer made the following report:

To the Honorable Mayor and Common Council;

Gentlemen— The undersigned committee, to whom was referred the resolution of Councilman Bash, in relation to the purchase of a new steam fire engine, respectfully report that we have had a consultation with the chief engineer, from whom we have received valuable information in relation to the engines now owned by the city. And, after a careful consideration of the question, in view of the fact that the steamer Frank Randall is now being repaired and the further fact that it is reported that by a recent decision of the supreme court of the state of Indiana, the amount of taxes as assessed upon the duplicate, for the present year, will be reduced the sum of five thousand dollars or more, we therefore, ask for further time, until we are more fully advised in relation to such decrease of taxes and said steamer Randall is repaired and tested, before making a final report.

Jas. E. Graham,

Emanuel Zarbaugh,

H. N. Putnam,

D. B. Strobe,

S. Bash,
Committee.

The report was concurred in by the council.

The funeral of the late Charles Degitz took place this afternoon and was largely attended. He died Tuesday morning at 6 o'clock. He lived at corner of Webster and Brackenridge Streets. 71 Brackenridge Street.

Fred Feiler, the new foreman of the TORRENTS, was the recipient of a surprise party at his residence on Tuesday night. The brave TORRENTS were out in force with their ladies and a grand time was enjoyed by all present.

The second ward engine house cistern was filled to-day.

The Vigilant steamer played out at the fire this morning.

page 4, col. 2.

FIRE BUGS.

ANOTHER ATTEMPT TO BURN DOWN THE SWINNEY BLOCK.

On the night of the 18th inst. A well-nigh successful attempt was made to set fire to the Swinney Block, on East Main street, opposite the court house. The blaze had assumed large proportions before it was discovered, and was only extinguished by the most strenuous exertions of the fire department. Evidences were abundant that the fire was the work of incendiaries.

This morning at 5:10 an alarm was sounded from box 5-2, caused by the discovery of a fire in the same block. The hall on the second floor was found to be in flames, which had evidently started directly opposite the place of their origin on the former occasion, in the street railway office. The blaze had acquired some headway, but the discovery was timely and though the good work of the firemen the fire was soon extinguished. The only damage was to the building, and is estimated at about \$75. Fully insured.

A quantity of waste and candle wick saturated with oil, and some matches, were found in a small hole in the hallway, giving conclusive proof that the fire was the work of incendiaries. The block of buildings is owned by the Swinney heirs and is very valuable. The first floor is occupied by Adolph Geismar as a restaurant, Entemann Brothers, saloon, and Marks & Co., jewelers. The second floor contains the office of the Citizen's Street Railway Company, the lodgings of A. Geismar and family, and one or two private offices. The entire third floor is used by the Fort Wayne Conservatory of Music. Whoever has started these fires evidently has a spite either against the owners of the building or some of the occupants. It is thought that the guilty parties are known, and they will probably be arrested shortly.

The firemen and policemen were paid off yesterday.

The alarm of fire from box 3-2, last evening, was caused by a blaze in the shoe shop of George A. Hermsdorfer, No. 133 Broadway. Loss, \$200; insured for \$400. The fire was caused by a lamp explosion.

This morning the roof of the Wabash carpenter shop caught fire and threatened a disastrous conflagration. The blaze was soon extinguished, however, causing only slight damage. No alarm was turned in.

The Frank Randall steamer, which is being rebuilt at the Kerr Murray shops, will be ready for service in about two weeks.

* School house near Chris Miller's sawmill in Wayne township burned to the ground. Carelessness of pupils in building fire in the stove is believed to have been the cause of the conflagration.

The Vigilant engine company asked the council to allow them \$1,000 a year for services as firemen. Referred to the fire committee.

The chief engineer reported that the boiler of the steamer Vigilant is leaking badly, and that it has to be taken out of service at once for repairs, leaving the city with only one engine in service. Mr. Hettler said the council should either put the department in good condition or else abolish it entirely. He thought the majority of the council had now got the department in just such condition as they desired to have it. He said that the only engine yet in service (the Mad Anthony) was the poorest one the city ever had. He concluded by saying that unless the council should do something he would move to abolish the fire department.

Mr. Graham said he would not be surprised to hear Mr. Hettler make any motion, however foolish. He (Hettler) was a man of such caliber that he was liable to make any motion. He said the Randall steamer would be out of the shop before the next council meeting, and before a new steamer could be obtained. The old steamers should have been rebuilt long ago, but a well laid plan had been made to drive the council to the purchase of a steamer.

Mr. Strobe said that the boiler leaking was not a serious matter. Boilers often leak, and they can generally be repaired in one or two hours by a boiler maker caulking the flues.

Mr. Withers thought the discussion had taken too wide a range, and that the implied reflections of certain speakers upon Mr. Kerr Murray, who is repairing the engines were entirely uncalled for. Mr. Graham had spoken of something being in the wind—

Mr. Hettler— I can't help it if he sees something in the wind.

Mr. Graham— We don't see anything but wind from you.

Mr. Withers, resuming, said the attack of the gentleman from the second ward, on Mr. Murray was unwarranted, and—

Mr. Hettler— I raise to a point of order. I made no attack upon Mr. Murray.

The chairman— Mr. Withers has the floor.

Mr. Hettler— Well, let Withers blow his horn.

After Mr. Withers concluded, Mr. Chittenden said the emergency was a sudden one, and he thought the chief engineer should make a statement.

Mr. Vogel said he had made his report in good faith, in order to get instructions from the council. He said two engines were needed at almost every fire, and that according to the contract Mr. Murray could not have both engines in his shop at the same time. He could not say how long it would take to repair the Vigilant. The trouble was with the flues. He could not say whether new flues were needed or not.

The chief's report was concurred in, and the fire committee and the chief were instructed to have necessary repairs made as soon as possible.

The Rescue Engine Company No. 6, located in the seventh ward, have tendered their resignation to the Chief Engineer of the fire department.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.

ESMOND'S MILLS REDUCED TO ASHES SATURDAY EVENING.

LOSS ABOUT \$20,000 — INSURANCE \$10,00 THE MILLS TO BE REBUILT.

Saturday evening, about 8 o'clock, two strangers on horseback dashed through the toll gate on the Bluffton road, near the county asylum, without stopping to leave the requisite amount of fractional currency. The toll-keeper gazed pensively after them for a moment and then, turning his optics in the direction of Beaver's Mill, discovered that venerable structure to be in flames. The connection between these apparently isolated incidents may be inferred by the reader. In a very short time the fire department was called out by an alarm from box 3-6, but the engines proceeded no farther than the Broadway railroad crossing, as the fire was evidently beyond their reach. Meanwhile the southern sky had become brilliantly illuminated, indicating the existence of a large conflagration. In a remarkably short time both banks of the St. Mary's river were covered with crowds of people, looking intently upon the destruction of Beaver's mill- one of the old landmarks of Fort Wayne.

The fire originated in the upper part of the building, on the north side. The mills being old, dry and very combustible, offered little resistance to the progress of the flames. Any attempt to subdue the fire was seen to be entirely hopeless, and in a little more than an hour the mills were a shapeless mass of ruins.

Beaver's mills were erected about forty years ago by a Mr. Davis, who sold them to Mr. Fairfield. They afterwards became the property of D. S. Beaver, esq. The mills have been three or four times rebuilt. About two years ago they passed into the possession of Geo. Esmond, esq., who owned and conducted them at the time of their destruction. During his control of them they were known as Esmond's mills. The mills were run by water power; but during the past five years they have also been supplied with a first-class forty horse power engine. About a year ago Mr. Esmond gave the institution a complete overhauling, supplying it throughout with new and improved machinery. During the greater part of the time the mills were run to their utmost capacity, which was 100 barrels per day. The mills had not been in operation since Wednesday last, and there is no room to doubt that the fire was the work of an incendiary.

The mill and contents were totally destroyed, although a portion of the machinery can yet be utilized. There were on hand about a thousand bushels of wheat, and a considerable quantity of flour. Mr. Esmond estimates his total loss at \$20,000; \$16,00 on building and \$4,000 on stock.

He held insurance as follows:

Newark, Newark, N. J., building.....	\$1,500
Peoples, Trenton, N. J. , “	1,500
Columbia, New York,	1,500
Aurora, Cincinnati,	1,000
Buffalo German, Buffalo,	1,500
Northwestern National, Milwaukee stock	1,500
Royal Canadian,	1,500
Total	\$10,000

Mr. Esmond, with the enterprise characteristic of him, will rebuild the mills as soon as possible after he effects a settlement with the insurance companies.

The Chief Engineer of the Fire Department reported that the Rescue Engine Company had resigned from the department and turned over their apparatus to the city. The resignation was accepted.

The Fire Committee reported that they had the boiler of the Vigilant Steamer repaired, and ask further time with reference to the petition of the Vigilant Engine Company for an allowance of \$1.000 per annum. Concurred in. The same committee also presented a communication from Mr. Kerr Murray, asking an extension of two weeks in the time allowed for the rebuilding of the Frank Randall Steamer. Received and placed on file.

The alarm of fire from box 5 - 2 last evening was caused by the burning of an old deserted tannery building on the north side of the canal, near the Harrison street bridge. The shell was partially destroyed. Loss purely nominal.

Last night, about 12 o'clock, a corn crib on the Swinney Place, west of the St. Mary's River, was set on fire by use of kerosene oil. The blaze was soon discovered and extinguished. The crib, which was full of corn, belongs to Emmet Powers, who resides at the corner of Wayne and Webster Streets, where the stable was burned down last night. It looks as if some one were trying to wreak some spite upon Mr. Powers.

The alarm from box 5 - 2, at 2 o'clock this morning, was caused by the burning of a one and a half story frame stable on the premises at No. 59 West Wayne Street. The stable belonged to Wm. Fleming and was damaged to the extent of about \$50.00. The fire was the work of an incendiary. The blaze illumined the entire city, and it seemed, at a short distance, as if a large building were in flames.

Related article on the same page.

The fire this morning cast a bright reflection upon the church spires. The cross upon the steeple of St. John's Church shone with remarkable brilliancy and being thrown into bold relief by the dark background of the sky, looked like a sign in the heavens.

Chief Vogel reports that the Anthony Wayne Steamer would not lift water at the fire last night.

FIREMEN, ATTENTION.

The members of the several fire companies will meet at their respective halls on Sunday afternoon at 1 o'clock, sharp, to attend the funeral of Peter Barbier.

By order of

F. B. Vogel,
Chief Engineer.

Peter F. Barbier, a well-known citizen, died last night of consumption, at his residence, No. 105 East Wayne street.

The funeral of the late Peter Barbier took place yesterday morning, the Rev. D. W. Moffatt officiating. The fire department turned out in force. The remains were interred in Lindenwood.

Johnnie Graf, of the fire department, is down for a bass solo at the Saengerbund Frolic tonight. He is preparing to send his "Majestic" voice about thirty degrees below zero.

FIRE FIENDS. Make Another Attempt to Burn Down the Mayer House. Which Comes Very Near Proving a Success.

This morning about half past 1 o'clock, the Mayer House was discovered to be in flames. An alarm was speedily turned in, and the fire department was soon on the spot doing good work. A large crowd assembled, and for a time it seemed as if the entire building must be destroyed. Fears were entertained for the lives of some of the guests, among whom there was quite a panic. They made their appearance in all degrees of raiment and with a dazed look in their faces. The halls filled with smoke, and Mr. Dixon, a conductor on the Pittsburgh road, was so overcome with it that he escaped in a semi-conscious condition. Chas. Lash, of Toledo, dropped out of his room on the second floor by a safety rope which he always carries with him.

The fire was soon extinguished. The damage to the building, which is owned by Geo. J. E. Mayer, is about \$500. Mr. Mayer holds insurance as follows: A. H. Carrier's agency, Hamburg, of Bremen and Commercial Union, \$1,250 each; Fisher & Ton's agency, Home of New York \$2,000., Underwriter's of New York \$3,000, Land Inay's agency, German of Rochester and Newark of Newark, N. J., \$1,500 each: Total, \$10,500. Col. Zollars's loss on furniture, ect., mainly from water, is about \$300. He has \$1,300 insurance in the Northern Company of Watertown, N. Y. I. D'lsey, agent and \$1,000. With J.M. Foellinger's agency.

The fire was the work of incendiary. It was started in several places. Off the wash room on the first floor and in rooms 24 and 25 on the second floor, the blazes broke out in halls on the second and third floors at opposite ends of the building. Several bunches of waste with matches, etc., were found. The attempt to burn down the Mayer House has been made a number of times, but it never came so near to proving a success as it did last night.

The alarm this morning was caused by a small blaze in the third story of H. J. Ash's store building, No. 17 East Columbia street. Loss, \$50 ; Covered by insurance.

On last Saturday the kitchen attached to the house of Wm. Brooks, in Milan township, caught fire from a defective flue while the family were at dinner. The neighbors saw the blaze and soon extinguished it. Loss, \$150; no insurance.

ORDINANCES.

Councilman Hettler then introduced the following ordinance:

An ordinance to provide remuneration for volunteer firemen:

Sec. 1. Be it ordained by the common council of the city of Fort Wayne, that all volunteer firemen of said city who have served actively for the period of one year as such volunteer fireman, shall, upon the certificate of the chief engineer showing such service, and the company of which such volunteer is a member, be entitled to and receive from the city a sum equal in amount to the exemption from city tax which active firemen are entitled to on taxable property; provided said active fireman is not the owner of five hundred dollars in taxable property.

Signed and sealed this 12th day of March, 1878.

The Frank Randall steamer was tested yesterday in the presence of a large crowd and worked splendidly.

The steamer Vigilant was engaged in filling the cistern at the corner of Webster and Wayne streets yesterday. Mechanics who have inspected the reconstructed steamer Randall, now in Kerr Murray's shops, pronounce it a first class job. A public trial will be given on Saturday. The steamer Vigilant will next go in dry dock.

John Graf, of the fire department, will throw his bass voice in a concert at Huntington next Tuesday evening.

The fire last evening was in the second story of Trentman's block at the corner of Harrison and Water streets. The building was occupied by A. Drager, whose loss is trifling. The loss on the building is \$150; fully insured in the Queen's of London.

The Frank Randall steamer is all ready for service, and only waiting for the suction hose, which is expected daily.

A BIG BLAZE.

ONE OF THE FINEST RESIDENCES IN THE CITY PARTLY DESTROYED BY FIRE.

Yesterday morning, at half past 2 o'clock, the department was called out by an alarm from box 2-4, caused by a fire in the Swift homestead, located at No. 7 Harmer street. The flames were well advanced when the department reached the scene, but firemen, although laboring under many disadvantages, worked with good effect. The blaze was extinguished, leaving the lower story of the house in a comparatively good condition.

The building damaged by the fire is one of the oldest and finest mansion houses in the city. It was for many years owned and occupied by D. F. Comparet, esq., and more recently by Alpheus Swift, esq. At present the property is owned by the Equitable Trust Company of New York and occupied by Mr. Al. Swift. It is valued at about \$15,000. The house was damaged by fire to the amount of \$2,000. Mr. Swift's loss on furniture, library, etc., will not exceed \$1,000, as most of the contents of the residence were saved.

The fire originated from a defective flue. Mr. Swift narrowly escaped with his life, as he was not awakened until one of the chimneys fell in with a loud crash, and the edifice was all in flames.

The building was insured in the Home of New York, for \$5,000, and the furniture, library, etc., in the same company for \$2,700.

The Frank Randall steamer will be in service in a day or two. Good judges say this "masheen" can now beat any steamer the fire department has ever had.

On the 16th inst. The left wing of the residence of Mr. Willis Brooks, in Milan township, was destroyed by fire. Loss fully covered by insurance in the Ohio Farmer.

ARSON AND BURGLARY.

THOMAS MANNIX SUFFERS A \$4,000 LOSS.

At 3 this morning an alarm of fire was turned in from box 1-6, corner of Chicago and Calhoun streets, caused by the discovery of a fire in the boot and shoe establishment of Thomas Mannix, esq., corner of Calhoun and Holman streets. The fire had acquired some headway, but was soon extinguished by a liberal flooding with water.

It appears that some parties effected an entrance into the building through the transom of the rear door, and stole a large number of sewed boots from the show case, together with all of the fine custom work, and other goods. Thereupon they set fire to the store on both sides, and it was soon in flames. A large quantity of the stock was burned, and the rest was ruined by water. The sides of the building were badly burned out.

Mr. Mannix estimates his loss upon stock by the burglary and fire at \$4,000. His stock was insured for \$2,000 in the Hartford Fire Insurance Company, represented by F. P. Randall, and \$500 in a St. Louis company. The building is damaged about \$300 worth and is insured for \$2,000 in the Underwriters of New York.

Tom seems to have more than his share of bad luck, and has the sympathy of many friends in his business misfortunes.

The house of Mrs. Sweany at Monroeville caught fire last Wednesday. The blaze was extinguished with but small damage.

At 8 o'clock last evening the fire department was called out by a false alarm from box 1-2.

THE VIGILANT ENGINE COMPANY.

The Vigilant Engine Company held their regular annual meeting last night. Councilmen Muhler and Hettler, of the fire committee, were present by invitation and advised the company not to press their demand for an appropriation of \$1,000 per year at present. Some of the members were in favor of an immediate disbandment of the company, but the majority concluded to maintain the organization, at least until the new council is elected and see what action will then be taken.

The election of officers to serve the ensuing year resulted as follows:

Foreman, Fred Baker,

First assistant, David Eggerman,

Second assistant, Fred Michaels,

Secretary, T. W. Saffron,

Treasurer, Alphonse Robbe,

Pipemen, Robert Cran, Peter Kintz, Wayne (Gen.) Kiser and Asa Lewis.

PAPER UNKNOWN

04/06/1878

* Wm. Sterick's sawmill, at Leo, destroyed by fire, loss \$2,000. The fire was the work of an incendiary.

The final test of the Frank Randall steamer will take place at 2 p.m. tomorrow, at the foot of West Columbia street, in the presence of the city officers, councilmen, etc.

The steamers were engaged in filling cisterns last night.

The funeral of Henry Hilbrecht's infant child took place this afternoon.

The Vigilant engine has again kerflummexed. The fire committee held an inquest this morning.

Considerable disappointment was felt yesterday over the failure of the Frank Randall steamer to be on hand for a test, as arranged. The councilmen, together with a number of citizens and parties from neighboring towns, were on hand; but Mr. Muhler, chairman of the fire committee, received information from Kerr Murray that the engine had been taken apart and could not be put together in time for the test. He did not say when the "masheen" would be ready for trial.

THE FRANK RANDALL STEAMER.

Yesterday afternoon the Frank Randall steamer had a trial test at the foot of Columbia street in the presence of a large gathering, including Chief Vogel and as assistants, Mayor Zollinger, and a number of city officers and councilmen. Messrs. J. M. Boone and W. T. McKean, the experts appointed by the council, were also present. At 2:38 fire was started, and in nineteen minutes there were 100 pounds of steam pressure. Water was thrown through 500 feet of hose with 1 1/8, 1 1/4 and 2 inch nozzles. The highest water pressure was 260 pounds and the highest steam pressure 110 pounds. Another 500 feet of hose was added, making 1,000 feet, through which a 1 1/4 inch stream was thrown 140 feet. The contract calls for 175 feet and the engine can undoubtedly fill the bill with a straight line of hose. The test was concluded on account of the blowing out of the water gate, which struck Mr. Dick Hanson in the jaw, cutting quite a gash and causing the blood to spurt forth freely. Several bystanders were also drenched with water. The steamer was then taken to the shop. The final official test will probably take place Tuesday, when everybody will be expected to be present.

After the test of the Randall, the Vigilant and Anthony Wayne steamers were tried. The Randall threw 40 feet further than the Wayne and 25 feet further than the Vigilant.

W. T. McKean informed our reporter that he had carefully examined the steamer and that the mechanism was very fine in every particular, showing skill and workmanship of a high order. He thinks the steamer will fill the bill, and do good service, giving good satisfaction in every particular.

FIRES.

About 2 o'clock this afternoon an alarm was turned in from box 3-6, corner of Union and Pritchard streets, caused by the burning of three large sheds, filled with staves and headings, belonging to Schnelker, Beugnot & Co., near the corner of Broadway and the Toledo, Wabash and Western Railway. The loss is estimated at \$10,000, partly covered by insurance.

A dwelling house, southeast of the city, owned by Mrs. Gosner, was destroyed by fire early yesterday morning. Loss \$1,000. Insured for \$600 in the Phoenix of Brooklyn.

The man who turned in the alarm from box 36, yesterday, stated that the fire apparatus reached the scene of devastation within six minutes from the time he pressed the button. Considering the distance, one and a half miles, this is good time, and speaks volumes for the efficiency of the department.

Among the officers to be elected by the new council are a chief engineer of the fire department, wood measurer, market master, sealer of weights and measures, one school trustee, one chief of police, one lieutenant of police, eighteen patrolmen, three members of the board of health, and five commissioners to appraise benefits and damages to realty.

The fire yesterday afternoon destroyed three large sheds filled with staves, belonging to Schnelker, Beugnot & Co. The loss is \$6,000, and the insurance is only \$710, equally divided between the Commercial Union of London and the Connecticut of Hartford, Carier & Trentman, agents. The firm a short time ago cancelled \$4,000 insurance on this property. The office, machinery, dry house, store house, heading and machine shops, all valued at \$25,000, escaped without damage.

The final official test of the Frank Randall steamer takes place this afternoon at the Harrison street bridge.

A new frame house in Madison township, belonging to Russen Jewel, was entirely destroyed by fire last night. Loss, \$3,000; no insurance.

The alarm from box 5-2, at 5:30 this morning, was caused by a small blaze in the rear of the Globe Chop House, arising from a lamp explosion. Total loss about \$10.

THE RANDALL STEAMER

FINAL TEST YESTERDAY AFTERNOON AT THE HARRISON STREET BRIDGE.

The final test of the Frank Randall steamer took place yesterday afternoon at the Harrison street bridge, in the presence of the mayor, fire committee, city officers, councilmen and citizens generally. Messrs. James M. Boone and William T. McKean, the experts selected by the council, were also present. The test was in every way satisfactory. The engine threw water 190 feet. The fire was lighted at 2:55. At 3:14 the gauge showed 50 pounds of steam; at 3:17, 90 pounds and at 3:20, 88 pounds. The following shows the steam and water pressure at different periods while water was being thrown through a 1 ½ inch nozzle and 500 feet of hose:

Steam gauge	Water gauge At engine	Water gauge 450 Feet from engine
1.....75	100	85
2.....56	100	85
3.....50	90	40
4.....48	105	40
5.....64	110	—
6.....100	210	80
7.....89	210	85
8.....82	180	83
9.....—	—	—

With 800 feet of hose and a 1 1/8 inch nozzle, pressure was indicated as follows:

1.....90	60	30
2.....82	100	40
3.....80	90	45
4.....79	100	50
5.....65	90	50

With 1,000 feet of hose and a 1 1/8 inch nozzle, pressure was indicated as follows:

1.....96	180	70
2.....96	250	100
3.....93	250	100
4.....80	230	90
5.....110	270	120

The engine worked very well, although some trouble was experienced from gravel which got into the pumps. The experts say that the losing of steam can be obviated by contracting the exhaust nozzles. The fire committee will, so it is stated, submit a favorable report this evening.

THE RANDALL STEAMER.

ANOTHER TEST YESTERDAY AFTERNOON BEFORE THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL.

Yesterday afternoon another test of the Frank Randall steamer took place at the Harrison street bridge, in the presence of the city officers, councilmen and citizens generally. The engine worked very well in most respects, making and keeping steam more satisfactorily than at the former tests. The distance thrown was not what was demanded by the specifications, partly by reason of the strong wind which prevailed. The test was made on the following specifications:

The engine or engines will have to do steady duty for four hours and keep a steady water pressure.

Will have to throw water through 500 feet of hose with a 1 1/4 inch nozzle 225 feet in distance.

Will have to throw two streams, one through a 1 inch nozzle and the other through a 1 1/8 inch nozzle, 170 feet in distance.

Will have to throw through 1,000 feet of hose, with a 1 1/4 inch nozzle, water to a distance of 175 feet.

The first test was made with a 1 1/4 inch through 500 feet of hose, with water gauges fifty feet from the engine and a like distance from the nozzle.

It is not known what action the fire committee or the council will take. They may require another test at Mr. Murray's own expense, and a more satisfactory one before reporting in favor of acceptance.

The following table gives the stream and water pressure and distance thrown:

Steam	1 st Gauge	2d Gauge	Distance
45	60	15	74
47	90	35	89
48	90	70	89
65	110	30	114
75	110	40	135
74	150	50	145
92	180	70	153
80	160	60	163
80	170	60	169
90	170	65	165
120	190	65	175
92	210	80	187
88	180	80	166
91	180	80	—
108	181	75	—
—	260	70	—

Two length of hose 500 feet each were then attached, using 1 1/8 and 1 inch nozzles with the following results:

Stream	1 st Gauge	2 nd Gauge	Distance
108	40	15	88
108	70	35	121
108	75	30	108
108	54	20	129
95	80	80	131
90	85	35	122
70	65	30	120
85	63	30	137
108	75	30	125
108	80	30	—
108	80	30	—
108	80	30	—

Before the trial was concluded, a valve was broken, which occurred at 4:30 o'clock. It was repaired, and a trial with 1,000 feet of hose, with 1 1/4 inch nozzle was made, with the following results:

100	—	30	110
95	—	35	140
90	—	45	142
85	—	50	130
90	—	50	144
110	—	41	146
105	—	55	—
105	—	65	—

The fire committee have agreed to report to-night against the acceptance of the Frank Randall steamer.

The city council met in special session on Saturday evening, the mayor presiding and a full board present except Messrs. Chittenden, Hogan and Withers. The fire committee presented a report of the official test of the Randall steamer, already published, but made no recommendations. Mr. Cody, seconded by Mr. Strobe, moved to accept the engine. After discussion by Messrs. Hettler, Graham, Strobe, Muhler, Putnam, Bash, Cody and Zarbaugh it was decided to adjourn until Thursday evening next. The understanding is that Mr. Murray will give the engine another trial on Wednesday afternoon.

Test of the Randall steamer this afternoon.

The Alert team, driven by Geo. Swayne, were weighed this evening. They kick the beam at 2,480 pounds.

TA, TA.

The council met last evening, the mayor presiding, and Messrs. Bash, Breen, Dryer, Graham, Hettker, Muhler, Putnam, Reese, and Withers present. There being no quorum, an adjournment was taken. Before dispersing the following communication was read:

C. A. Zollinger, Mayor of Fort Wayne:

Dear Sir— I expect to have the steamer Frank Randall ready in a few days to come up to the test, of not only working four hours, but four days if necessary; and I do not wish the city to take the steamer under any other consideration.

Yours respectfully,

Kerr Murray.

The old Alert team which the city sold a few months ago for \$425, were sold in New York last week for \$1,000.

A fire alarm box has been removed to the corner of Lafayette and Wallace streets from a point about 100 feet distant.

Bob Cran is a candidate for chief engineer of the fire department.

The Torrents last evening unanimously endorsed Robert Cran for the position of chief engineer of the fire department.

Communications were received from the Vigilant and Torrent engine companies recommending Robert Cran for Chief Engineer of the fire department. Received and placed on file.

ARREST OF FIRE BUGS

Page 4, Col. 4.

Last night Policemen O’Ryan and Myers caught four boys in the act of firing a barn on Baker street belonging to Councilman Cody. The peelers extinguished the fire and secreted themselves. The boys soon returned, and two of them (Leonard Iba and Herman Kratzsch) were arrested. Complaints have been filed against them at Hoagland’s court, and their examination will take place Friday. “Brush Myers and Lon Hutchinson are also said to be implicated. They have not been arrested.

TROUBLE IN THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The Torrent Engine Company have withdrawn from the fire department and the Vigilants will probably follow suit at their next meeting unless the council agrees to their demand for an allowance of \$2,000 per year. Mayor Zollinger, Chief Engineer Vogel and the fire committee met this morning to consider the situation. The chief was empowered to employ ten men to man the pipes, lay hose, etc., until the council meeting. These men are to be picked from the vicinity of the engine house. The chief is in favor of dispensing with all volunteer companies (save the Alerts) and employing fifteen men at \$10 per month, to board near the engine house, and man pipes, lay hose, and do general fire duty. The fire committee will probably endorse this suggestion. The chief also favors the employment of two stokers. He believes the fire department under this system will be but little more expensive, and at the same time more efficient than at present.

The alarm turned in from box 3-1 at 8 o'clock this morning was caused by a fire in the dwelling house on the southeast corner of Griffith and Pearl streets, occupied by Joseph Bowers. The fire originated from a defective flue connected with the kitchen stove. Loss about \$100; fully insured.

THE TORRENTS VS. THE NEWS.

To the Editor of the Sentinel:

I notice an article published in the Daily News regarding the fire department. It reflects upon the Torrent Company as a political machine, implying that since the Torrents are out of the department all the loafer are gone and the best thing that the council can do is to keep them out. I have only to say this, that the Torrent Company were organized in the year of 1873 and that they have always done their duty to the best of their ability since that time and have been considered as a first class fire company. The News has always, heretofore, praised the volunteer firemen, but now as the Torrents have resigned, thinking that the firemen should receive pay for their active service, the News calls them a lot of loafers and bummers. I don't think that the company owes the News anything. The Torrents have had dealings with them (the News men) and always acted like gentlemen. In regard to the Torrents being a political machine, Mr. Vogel was the only man that ever drew them into a political contest. The company has nothing to say in regard to Mr. Vogel as their chief. They have always stood by Mr. Vogel at all times and at all fires. The Torrent Company was as well organized as any in the fire department, their company being full and well equipped. They had every thing that was needed by a volunteer company. If the company was not of any account why does the city need to have a paid department? Why do they not get gentlemen and not "loafers" as the News calls the Torrents/

Member of Torrents.

Fred. Graff and Wm. Teghtmyer, of the fire department, were slightly injured by the bursting of a section of hose yesterday.

A grocery belonging to Isaac Kelsey, of Aboite township, was totally destroyed by fire last night. Loss about \$1,000; no insurance. It is thought the fire was the work of an incendiary.

The Vigilant engine company will probably disband.

John Downey has resumed his old position in the fire department.

Kerr Murray is still tinkering with the Randall steamer, which he expects to turn over to the city in good condition very shortly.

The alarm of fire at 11 o'clock Saturday night was caused by the burning of the peanut shop at the south end of the Bloomingdale bridge.

The alarm from box 5-2, last night at 11:30, was a false one. There is an ordinance against these false alarms which should be enforced. People don't like to be wakened at midnight by the fire bell unless for good cause.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Yesterday the council fire committee and finance committee held a joint session, and decided to report adversely upon the petition of the Vigilant engine company for an appropriation of \$2,000 per year. They will recommend the employment of fifteen men at \$10 per month, to reside near the engine house and do duty at fires, two of whom shall be the first and second assistant chiefs.

INCENDIARISM.

A GOOD SIZED BLAZE LAST NIGHT.

Last night at 11 o'clock, an alarm was turned in from box 3-1, caused by a fire in a cooper shop owned by John H. Cody, and situated near the intersection of the Grand Rapids railroad with the canal, immediately west of the city limits. The department responded quickly, but the fire was too far advanced to admit of anything being done except to save the surrounding buildings. The shop was a frame building, one story high and about 30 x 100 feet in dimensions. It was totally destroyed. It contained some tress hoops, barrels, tools, fixtures, etc., belonging to Mr. Cody, who estimates his loss at \$1,600; no insurance. A lot of machinery belonging to Payne, Ainsworth & Co., of Cleveland, and which cost \$3,800, was also destroyed. This was not insured. The fire was the work of an incendiary.

The engine-house floor is in a dangerous condition for the horses.

Vigilant Engine Company No. 2 last night decided to withdraw from the fire department on the 15th inst.

The alarm from box 3-1, this morning, was caused by a blaze in the roof of Cochrane, Humphrey & Co.'s shop. It was soon extinguished, the loss not exceeding \$10.

The Vigilants will retire from the fire department to-morrow.

At 9 last night a barn at 122 High street was destroyed by fire. Loss, \$100; fully insured.

Improvements are being made in the second ward engine house.

THE FRANK RANDALL STEAMER.

The Frank Randall steamer underwent another test yesterday afternoon at the foot of Columbia street in the presence of the mayor, city officers, councilmen and a large number of citizens. The test passed off in a very satisfactory manner, and all present seemed to be well pleased. The machine works steadily and threw an excellent fire stream through both 500 and 1,000 feet of hose. The general sentiment seems to be in favor of accepting the steamer, which it is believed will do first class fire service. The Vigilant steamer will then be rebuilt by Mr. Murray.

Chief Vogel has had a chute made to carry the water in the canal over the break near Orff's mills.

Thursday night, Chas. Wells's hay store, on Columbia street, was set on fire, but the blaze was discovered at once and extinguished without any damage.

THE RANDALL STEAMER.

The fire committee was in conference last evening with Mr. Kerr Murray in reference to the Frank Randall steamer. Although the engine does not in every respect comply with the specifications in the contract, it will do good fire service, and the committee agreed to recommend her acceptance, provided Mr. Murray will furnish a suction pipe, and pay \$55 for the outside labor employed in the extra tests. This Mr. Murray declines to do and the committee will, therefore, report the facts without recommendation.

FORT WAYNE DAILY SENTINEL Monday 07/08/1878 Page 4, Col. 3.

The fire committee and Kerr Murray are at a dead-lock about the Randall steamer.

The fire committee met this morning, and the finance committee is in session this afternoon, for the purpose of allowing bills.

The man who rang the fire bell this morning and managed to keep two-thirds of the population awake for about an hour, should be promoted. His muscular development is too great for the position he now occupies.

PAPER UNKNOWN

07/03/1878

* Fire Committee meets to consider bill of \$2,400 rendered against the city by the Canal Company. They decided to allow all the bill except the rent for the first six months of 1878, which was \$1,000.

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

The fire committee reported as follows: To His Honor the Mayor and Gentlemen of the Common Council:

Your committee on the fire department and city attorney, to whom was referred the matter of the acceptance of the Frank Randall steamer, respectfully report that Mr. Murray refuses to furnish a new suction hose for said steamer, the one now used on said steamer being one originally belonging to the Anthony Wayne steamer, and condemned some two years since. He also refuses to pay to the city the money advanced by the city for the unsatisfactory trials of said Frank Randall steamer, or to give bond for the keeping in repair of said steamer for one year from date of her acceptance. In accordance with his contract with the city, the said Murray was to rebuild the said Frank Randall steamer and return her to the city within forty days in first class condition, free of expense to the city, and, keep her in repairs for one year, more than five months of which time has expired. Your committee contend that according to the contract:

1. That the steamer Frank Randall is not in first class condition with a condemned suction hose.
2. That she has not been offered to the city free of expense, as the city has paid out \$63 for trials, \$53 of which was for trials when the steamer broke down.
3. That the said Murray should give bonds to keep the said Frank Randall steamer in repair for one year from the time of her acceptance by the city.

All of which conditions said Murray refuses to accept.

Respectfully submitted,

F. H. McCulloch,

J. W. Vordermark,

Committee on Fire Department.

Henry Colerick,

City Attorney.

The report was discussed at some length by Messrs. Cody, Graham, McCulloch, Hettler, Chittenden and Bash, after which the council voted to accept the steamer, but withhold the amount expended for unsuccessful tests, and also the cost of a new suction.

A resolution for a fire alarm box at the corner of West Main and Cherry streets, in Nebraska, was referred to the fire committee.

MORPHINED.

EX-COUNTY RECORDER JOHN M. KOCH TAKES HIS OWN LIFE.

THE CAUSES WHICH LED TO THE SAD EVENT.

John M. Koch, esq., died yesterday morning at 11 o'clock at his residence, corner of Jefferson and Calhoun streets, from the effects of an overdose of morphine, supposed to have been administered by himself with suicidal intent. On Saturday the deceased was around the streets as usual, but in the evening complained of feeling badly and seemed greatly depressed in spirits. He retired at 9 o'clock, and early yesterday morning was discovered to be in a comatose condition, evidently suffering from the effects of some drug. Drs. Williamson, Josse and Proegler were speedily at his bedside. They used the stomach pump, gave him antidotes and strong coffee, but the patient was too far gone. He steadily failed until his death at the hour stated.

Mr. Koch was a native of Germany, but had resided in this city nearly a quarter of a century, and was well known in our midst.

In 1870 he was elected county recorder on the democratic ticket, but in 1874 he failed to obtain a renomination. For several years past he has been addicted to intemperance, and about a year since his valuable property was sold on foreclosure by the United States marshals. He has been greatly depressed in spirits for some time, and his mental troubles seemed to have increased as the time arrived for the redemption of his property, and he was unable to save it. His age was about 45, and he leaves a wife and three children—two boys and one girl.

Coroner Gaffney held an inquest yesterday morning, and heard the testimony of Herman Kratzsch, Holt Pfleger, Kate Morrell, and Drs. Williamson, Josse and Proegler, after which a verdict was rendered of "death from an overdose of morphine, administered by his own hands."

Mr. Koch was a member of Emanuel's German Lutheran Church, and also of Summit City Lodge, F. and A. M., and the Alert Hook and Ladder Co. His life was insured in the Masonic Mutual Benefit Society.

The funeral took place this afternoon from his late residence, and was well attended. The following gentlemen acted as pall bearers: Herman Kratzsch, Martin Heingartner, Jos. Mommer, Jr., Wm. Linderman, Louis Traub, August Lordier. The remains were interred in St. John's cemetery.

07/16/1878 Tuesday Page 4, Col. 3.

The remains of John M. Koch were interred in Lindenwood instead of St. John's cemetery, as stated in yesterday's Sentinel. The statement that Mr. Koch was a member of Emanuel's Church also proves incorrect.

A \$50,000 FIRE.

DESTRUCTIVE CONFLAGRATION AT DEFIANCE LAST NIGHT.

About 11 o'clock last night a telegram was received by Chief Engineer Vogel stating that a destrive fire was raging at Defiance, O., and requesting prompt assistance from this place. The Wabash company provided a special train consisting of a locomotive, flat car and box car, and with the Vigilant steamer, a hose carriage and twelve men, left for Defiance. A Sentinel reporter accompanied the party. The train reached its destination, a distance of forty-two miles, in just one hour. The fire was then found to be under control, and our apparatus was not unloaded. The party remained at Defiance until the fire was entirely extinguished, and then returned to this city, arriving here at six this morning.

The fire originated about 10 o'clock in a frame livery stable owned by John Kisen and run by Ky Newman. This was completely destroyed with the contents, including Mr. Newman's household goods. He had no insurance, but the building was fully insured. The flames then swallowed up the boot and shoe store of A. Ritner, the saloons of G. J. Sinearo and C. Sibert, the Keystone block, a large brick structure owned by Wolford & Meyers, the Crosby House, a fine four-brick-story hotel and several other buildings. The fire laid waste the finest square in the city, and the total loss at a very moderate estimate is \$50,000, some place it as high as \$75,000. The jewelry store of G. Sumner and the hardware store of H. Brown were badly damaged by water.

The following is the statement of the insurance so far as could be learned by our reporter:
Fire Association of Philadelphia— C. M. Meyers' store building, \$2,700.

Continental of New York— J. H. Kiser, livery stable building, \$200; John Snyder, saloon building, \$600.

Hartford, of Hartford, Ct.— M. Shultz, hotel furniture, \$2,500.

Etna of Hartford— Shultz Bros., grocers, \$2,500; H. Bitner, boots and shoes, \$500; M. Shultz, hotel, \$3,000.

North British and Mercantile— Deatrick & Sumner, jewelry stock, \$2,000; John Snyder, saloon stock, \$950.

Home of New York— J.H. Kiser, livery building, \$1,000.

North American of Philadelphia— A. Bruner & Co., hardware stock, \$2,500; T. H. Kiser, livery stable building, \$500.

Lycoming of Pennsylvania— C. M. Meyers, building, \$2,000.

This makes the total insurance, so far as learned, \$20,950.

The fire was the work of an incendiary. The blow is a severe one to the beautiful and enterprising little city of Defiance, but the people of that place will doubtless, with their customary public spirit, soon repair their losses.

LATER. (By telegraph.)

Toledo, July 22.— The loss by the fire at Defiance, O., last night, will reach \$35,000; insurance, \$28,000, mostly in small amounts in New York and New England companies.

FIRE DEPARTMENT ITEMS.

The Frank Randall steamer now weighs 9,100 pounds. Previous to rebuilding the weight was 7,450 pounds.

The fire cisterns at the intersections of Francis and Madison, and Monroe and Lewis streets, were filled this morning.

A sign was put up at the second ward engine house this morning. It reads: "No loafing allowed here."

This morning the Frank Randall steamer was taken to the Hanna street dock, to be used in filling cisterns. Although 110 pounds of steam were raised, it was found impossible to pump water. The fault was doubtless leakage in the suction pipe. The Randall was taken back to the engine house, and the Vigilant steamer substituted.

George Swayne, driver of the Alert truck, is about leaving for Ohio, where he will remain several weeks. "Hank" Pantlind will handle the reins during his absence.

Martin Bell's barn, two miles east of New Haven, was destroyed by fire last Tuesday night, with a quantity of hay and other contents. Loss \$1,500; fully insured.

PAPER UNKNOWN

07/24/1878

* The fire engine "Frank Randall" fails to work and is returned to Murrays shop.

FORT WAYNE DAILY SENTINEL Thursday 07/25/1878 Page 4, Col. 3.

A fire alarm box is to be put up in Nebraska.

The fire yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock destroyed the frame dwelling house owned and occupied by Kenton Richards, and located at the corner of Thomas street and Creighton avenue. Most of the contents were saved. The loss is about \$400, for which amount the building was insured in the German American.

One of the firemen was severely bitten by a horse at the fire yesterday.

A SMALL BLAZE.

About 1 o'clock this morning there was a small blaze in the workshop of Friend's Enterprise Clothing Store, Keystone Block. It was extinguished with a loss of about \$150 on stock and building; fully insured. The fire started from a small stove, used for the heating of irons.

Yesterday afternoon a barn belonging to Geo. Phillabaum, located four miles north of the city, was destroyed by fire, with all the contents. Loss, \$1,500; no insurance. The fire caught from matches which were dropped by children who were playing in the barn.

The Alerts hold their annual meeting to-night.

The fire alarm at 5:30 last evening turned out to be false.

Fire alarm box No. 5-4, will be erected at the corner of West Main and Cherry streets this week.

A FALSE ALARM.

CALL OUT THE B'HOYS—GEO. STRODEL SERIOUSLY HURT.

This morning about 1 o'clock an alarm was turned in from box 2-3, at the intersection of East Washington and Lafayette streets, which brought the department out on double quick time. There proved to be no fire, however, and the cause of the alarm was not learned.

Geo. Strodel, first assistant chief of the fire department, met with a serious accident in responding to the call of duty. He mounted one of the hose carriages, and in turning the corner of Barr and Washington streets, the horse suddenly shied off, throwing Mr. Strodel violently to the ground. He was picked up and conveyed to his residence, No. 54 East Main street, when he was found to be seriously hurt. Two ribs are broken, his arm and shoulder badly bruised and his leg severely injured. It is feared that his leg is broken. The injuries are not dangerous, but are quite painful and will probably lay Mr. Strodel up for some time. Dr. Bruebach is attending.

COLUMBIA CITY FIREMEN'S EXCURSION.

The firemen of Columbia City will have a grand railroad excursion on next Wednesday, August 14th, to Rome City, \$1. From LaOtto 75c. And return. This will be one of the nicest excursions of the season. All go who can.

Connection is being made between the fire alarm telegraph system and the new box in Nebraska.

A stack of straw burned north of the rivers last night, causing an alarm to be turned in from box 2-7.

A TURN OUT IN THE RAIN.

Yesterday afternoon about 3 o'clock, there was a terrific thunder storm. The rain fell in torrents for a few moments, and the fiery shafts of lighting were quickly succeeded by deafening peals of thunder. It was believed that heavy damage must have been done, and when a fire alarm was sounded from box 2-7, a large fire was looked for. The department turned out on the instant and went through the pouring rain to the box mentioned, at the corner of Shick street and Maumee avenue, only to find that the alarm was caused by lightning and that the box was shattered to pieces by the force of the electric current.

There are now fifteen miles of fire alarm telegraph wire and thirty fire alarm boxes in the city.

The alarm at 11 last night was caused by a blaze in a small shanty near the street railroad stable. Loss \$100.

The Lake Side House at Rome City was destroyed by fire at 4:30 this morning. The fire was the work of an incendiary. Loss, heavy; fully insured.

BIG BLAZES.

PIERCETON HAS A THIRTY THOUSAND DOLLAR FIRE.

SATURDAY'S CONFLAGRATION AT ROME CITY.

LARGE FIRE AT PIERCETON.

The town of Pierceton, Kosciusko county, was visited by a large fire last night. The blaze broke out about 11 o'clock and laid an entire block in ashes, including the hotel (Hayes House), three stores, a private residence, a restaurant and the postoffice. Nothing was saved, the town having no fire department, and the only apparatus available being a Babcock Fire Extinguisher, which was not equal to the emergency. Warsaw was telegraphed to for help, and after a long delay an engine was loaded on a car for shipment. The fire was then under control however, and the assistance was not needed. The entire loss is estimated at \$25,000 to \$30,000; no insurance. The heaviest losers are Drs. Hayes and Matchett, and Mr. Graves. The origin of the fire is unknown. This is a severe blow to the little town of Pierceton.

THE FIRE AT ROME CITY.

The Sentinel of Saturday briefly mentioned the destruction of the Lakeside House, at Rome City, by fire. The fire occurred at 4:30 in the morning and was undoubtedly the work of an incendiary. The building and all the contents were entirely destroyed and the guests narrowly escaped with their lives.

The building cost \$13,00 and was owned by S. R. Truesdale. Insured for \$5,000 in the Etna of Hartford, Hartford of Hartford, Niagara of New York, and Home of New York. The furniture was valued at \$3,000, and was insured for \$1,500 in the above companies. It was also owned by Mr. Truesdell. Mr. S. W. Dodge was landlord of the hotel.

The work of rebuilding the Vigilant steamer is being pushed forward vigorously at the Murray shops.

The Alert Hook and Ladder Company will leave Monday for a two day's visit at Chicago. The railroad fare and hotel bills are to be paid from the treasury of the company.

OUR FATHERS WHO WERE IN COUNCIL.

WHY FRANK VOGEL WON'T ATTEND THE CHIEF ENGINEERS' CONVENTION

REPORTS.

The committee on fire department reported in favor of putting a fire alarm box at the intersection of Calhoun and Lillie streets, as prayed for by H. N. Ward; also in favor of petition of Frank Casso for the erection of a fruit stand at the corner of Calhoun and Main streets; and against the petitions of Councilman Graham for a fire alarm box near the cistern on Buchanan street, as well as against the petition of J. S. Wheeler for constructing a cistern at the intersection of Horace and Oliver streets. Concurred in by the council.

An invitation to the chief engineer of the fire department to attend the annual convention of chief engineers was read and placed on fire.

RESOLUTIONS.

Councilman McCulloch, chairman of the committee on fire department presented a resolution instructing Chief Engineer Vogel to attend the convention of the chief engineers at Cleveland, and voting him an allowance of \$75 for expenses. Councilman Chittenden, of the same committee, moved to lay on the table, which was done by a vote of nine to six.

A resolution to erect a fire alarm box at the northeast corner of Calhoun and Leith streets, was adopted.

Philip Keintz has gone to Chicago. He will be one of the musicians in the great firemen's parade.

Leaking gas in one of the Mayer House bed rooms caught fire last night and blazed out, which produced an alarm from box 5-2. The department turned out promptly, only to find that their services were not needed.

The exposition and fireman's tournament at Chicago open to-morrow. Twenty-five members of the Alerts left at 11:30 this morning for the scene of activity. Among those who will "take in" the splurge are Mayor Zollinger, John Ryall, James M. Kane, T. B. Hedekin, C. S. Brackenridge, C. McCulloch, H. T. Stapleford and wife, L. T. Bourie, A. H. Carier, Frank Voirol, Robert Cran, Wm. Schiefer, Councilman Dreyer, John C. Eckert, P. Certia, Councilman McCulloch, A. Kalbacher and many others. Most of them left to-day; the others will go on night trains.

A BLAZE AT THE GLOBE.

At half-past 7 o'clock last evening August Smith, night cook at the Globe restaurant on East Main street, went to the rear end of the lot to draw some gasoline, with a lantern in his hand, when the gasoline exploded, causing a bright blaze. An alarm was turned in and the department was promptly on hand and soon had the flames extinguished. The loss was about \$300; no insurance. Mr. Smith was terribly burned about the arms and hands.

A new floor is being laid at the second ward engine house.

TRINITY'S TROUBLE.

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH STRUCK BY LIGHTNING LAST EVENING.

DAMAGE BY FIRE AND WATER ABOUT \$7,000.

Last evening about 7 o'clock Trinity Episcopal Church, at the corner of West Berry and Fulton streets, was struck by lightning, at the rear of the main building, on the gable. The roof at once caught fire and in a very few moments burst into flames. An alarm was turned in from box 3-1, and the fire department was promptly on hand, but worked with much difficulty, as the blaze was almost inaccessible. The Randall and Wayne steamers were taken out, but one of the flues of the former gave out at once, and the Anthony Wayne was the sole reliance until the Vigilant arrived. The last vestige of the fire was not extinguished until about 11 o'clock.

The roof at the south end of the building was partially destroyed. The interior of the beautiful church was completely saturated with water, and the organ was probably entirely ruined by the aqueous element. It cost \$2,800. The auditorium is badly damaged by smoke and heat. The memorial altar, placed in the chancel by Mrs. C. D. Bond, escaped unharmed.

The entire damage is closely estimated at about \$7,000. The building was insured for \$10,000 in the North British of London and Edinburgh, and \$10,000 in the Hartford Fire, both represented by F. P. Randall. The organ and other contents were not insured.

Trinity Church was erected in 1865. It is a beautiful stone edifice, and one of the finest church buildings in the city. The total cost was \$35,000. The congregation is small, and but for the insurance, the loss of last evening would be severely felt.

Services will be held on Sunday in the Church of the Good Shepherd.

Trinity Church has been struck by lightning three times within the last eight years. This accounts for the familiar absence of Dave White, Bill Nelson, Ras Chittenden and other once pious Episcopalians who are afraid of being struck by lightning.

The Vigilant engine did splendid service last night at the fire. She, with the Randall, was sent back to the Murray shops, but it is altogether likely that the fire committee will order the Vigilant to the engine house to-day, to be kept for emergency, while the public test will take place some time next week.

Another attempt will be made at the next meeting of the council to order the purchase of a new fire steamer.

QUITE A BLAZE.

THE FIRE LAST NIGHT – LOSSES, ETC.

At 10:20 last night a fire broke out in the frame barn belonging to John Helmick and located on the premises, Nos. 45 and 47 West Main street. It was totally destroyed involving a loss of \$100. The flames spread to the two story brick barn of Jos. A. Miller, which was nearly destroyed; Loss \$1,200; Mr. Chas. Fink's two-story frame barn was damaged \$50, and Mr. P. H. Kane's brick barn was damaged \$200.

Mr. Brinkweder's shed, value \$25, was destroyed. Mr. Kane had \$3,500 insurance on his residence and barn, but with that exception none of the losses were insured. The origin of the fire is unknown. The fire department did good work, but labored under disadvantages on account of the flues of the Randall steamer leaking so badly.

A resolution ordering the purchase of a new steamer for the fire department will be adopted by the council to-morrow night. Fourteen members have already signed it.

A resolution, signed by several members, was introduced, instructing the fire committee to purchase a first-class steamer.

Mr. Graham moved to amend by instructing the fire committee to advertise for proposals to be presented at the next meeting. He was in favor of a new steamer.

Mr. Chittenden said that the fire committee had had bids in their hands for some time. He said the fire department was in very bad shape, and something must be done at once. He thought everybody that knew anything of the subject favored a piston engine.

A lively discussion ensued between Messrs. Graham, Cody, Muhler, Chittenden, Wilkinson and others, after which the resolution was amended so as to authorize the committee to purchase subject to the ratification of the council. The resolution then passed.

THE "MASHEEN."

A FEW ITEMS CONCERNING THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

One of the hose carriage horses is said to be used up, and the purchase of a new horse will be made immediately.

The Randall engine was taken out of the Murray shop to-day and the Vigilant sent back for more repairs.

It is said that 1,000 feet of new hose is needed by the fire department.

A new fire alarm box has been put up in Nebraska.

The fire committee was in session last night.

A contract for a new first-class Amoskeag fire engine will be presented to the council next Tuesday. The engine will cost \$4,200 in city orders at par. A second class engine can be obtained from the same works for \$3,800. A proposition has been received from the Clapp & Jones Company to furnish an engine several hundred dollars cheaper than the Amoskeag, but the fire committee will recommend the latter because they believe it to be the best and most durable. The universal sentiment is in favor of a piston steamer. Both the Amoskeag and the Clapp & Jones have piston pumps, but the preference seems to be given generally to the Amoskeag. The contract will probably be ratified by a unanimous vote, and within sixty days we will have a new engine.

As soon as the new engine arrives, the Anthony Wayne steamer will be taken apart, and some portions sent to the Silsby works at Seneca Falls, N. Y., for necessary repairs, at an estimated expense of \$150.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

The fire committee submitted a contract with the Manchester Locomotive Works for a first-class Amoskeag steam fire engine to cost \$4,200.

Mr. Chittenden moved to concur in the report and ratify the contract.

Mr. Cody criticised the contract because it does not guarantee the engine to last more than a year, nor what tests it must undergo satisfactorily.

Messrs. Chittenden and McCulloch thought that it was sufficient that the engine should work to the satisfaction of the council.

Mr. Graham said the contract was very loosely drawn. He endorsed what Mr. Cody had said on the subject.

Mr. Hettler moved that the specifications be made a part of the contract.

Mr. Chittenden said the contract as presented was the regular printed form always used by this company.

The question was further discussed by Mr. Muhler and others, and the subject was laid over until later in the evening.

THE ENGINE QUESTION.

The steam engine contract was then called up, and after some remarks by Messrs. Chittenden, Graham, Hettler, McCulloch, Cody and others, was amended so as to provide that the engine must prove entirely satisfactory to the city, and was ratified.

The council then adjourned.

THE STEAM ENGINES.

The Frank Randall steamer was purchased on December 28th, 1860, and has been in use ever since. It was manufactured by the Silsby Company, of Seneca Falls, N. Y.

The Vigilant steamer was purchased at second hand from the city of Pittsburgh in June, 1861. It is an Amoskeag, made at Manchester, N. H.

The Mad Anthony Wayne steamer was bought in 1873, of the Silsby company.

The contract for the new steamer was signed and forwarded this morning.

The councilmen are scratching their heads over a suitable name for the new steamer.

James Fox yesterday bought the horse "Doc" from the fire department.

F. B. Vogel left this afternoon for Kendallville to purchase a new horse for the fire department.

Yesterday afternoon the horse Doc, purchased by James Fox from the fire department, ran away, but was stopped by a man employed at McKinnie's eating house, who displayed considerable nerve and bravery.

McCullough, the fire alarm telegraph man, of Richmond, arrived to-day with a new fire alarm box, which is to be put up on South Calhoun street.

The Frank Randall steamer was removed from the Murray shop this morning, and is ready for duty again.

The new alarm box to be put up on South Calhoun street is an improvement over the old style. Its cost is the same, \$150.

Pat Conover was all over Nebraska this morning looking for a fire which was said to have occurred in that delectable locality at a late hour last night. Somebody had been giving him "taffy."

A new coal box has been placed in front of the station house. It is furnished with a good lock, and the offices in the vicinity were all cold this morning for the first time since the stoves were put up.

FIRES.

The alarm turned in from box 3-5, about 10 o'clock Saturday night, was false. The alarm at 5:30 this morning from box 1-4 was caused by a blaze in a smoke house on the premises at No. 70 Douglas avenue, owned by Hiram Simonton and occupied by John C. Eckert. Loss, \$10.

On Friday night the large barn belonging to Elisha Smith, eight miles north of the city on the Goshen road, was consumed by fire. Loss, \$1,500; no insurance. It is believed that the barn was set on fire in hopes that the residence would also fall a prey to the flames,

The frequency of late false fire alarms has become an unmitigated nuisance and should be stopped in some way or other. Aside from the expense attending the firing of the engines, the inconvenience and alarm unnecessarily given the people is sufficient reason for the prompt squelching of this annoying practice. If the chief engineer of the fire department occasionally orders these fraudulent alarms to test the watchfulness of his subordinates; whether the committee on fire department do so to ascertain the vigilance of the chief, or mischief-makers do so out of pure cussedness, the practice is equally reprehensible, and should be stopped by the council, the mayor, or the proper powers that be. On last Saturday evening nearly a thousand people were gathered in the Academy of Music, when the bell tolled out the dread alarm. Of course the majority were apprehensive, and not a few left the hall, creating confusion and nearly interrupting the performance, only to find the signal the work of outlaws who had forged false keys. In many instances, however, the holders of genuine keys send in unfounded alarms. The thing has become too frequent and monotonous, and should be tolerated no longer.

Andrew Carroll, of Ridgeville, Randolph county, was in the city last evening, in conference with the committee on fire department. He is sent by the village authorities to negotiate for the purchase of a hand engine, hose cart and 500 feet of rubber hose. As the city has much of this kind of second-hand stuff in stock now would be a good time to dipose of it.

An ordinance to reorganize the tire department of indianapolis was lost by a vote of 14 to 10, on Monday night last. The new ordinance provided for "Minute Men." It was resolved, however, to retire engine No. 6 and one hose reel, thus effecting a saving of six or seven thousand dollars in the running expenses of the department.

Nicholas Scar's smoke house, at Monroeville, burned down Thursday.

Somebody was tampering with the fire alarm wires Saturday night, and caused the bell to tap several times. The mayor will probably offer a reward for the discovery of the party, who will be punished to the extent of the law.

CHARLEY ZOLLINGER

THE NAME BY WHICH THE NEW STEAMER IS TO BE BAPTIZED.

The new fire steamer has been christened "Charley Zollinger," in honor of our popular mayor, as will be seen from the following letter:

To the Hon. C. A. Zollinger, Mayor, Fort Wayne, Ind.— Dear Sir: The manufacturers of the new engine have written to your committee, advising us that the machine is nearing completion, and suggesting the immediate forwarding of a name. The undersigned, in view of your distinguished services, more especially the consummate skill and ability shown in the prosecution of the recent Droegemeyer case, saving to the city over \$17,000, together with other marked characteristics of your popular administration, constrains us to ask the use of your name to distinguish the new steamer, and we trust your proper appreciation of our motives will induce you to accord us this favor. Very respectfully,

F. H. McCulloch,
J. W. Vordermark,
E. L. Chittenden,
Com. On Fire Dep't.

Nov. 18, 1878.

The mayor returned his verbal assent to the proposition, and the name "Charley Zollinger" was immediately forwarded.

WELL DONE.

TWO SMALL BLAZES, AND THREE HORSES BURNED TO DEATH.

This morning, at four o'clock, an alarm was turned in from box 1-6, caused by a blaze in the frame stable at the premises on the south west corner of Calhoun and Baker streets, belonging to Morris Cody, esq. It was entirely destroyed, together with a quantity of hay, the loss being \$100.

Three horses were burned to death, two of which belonged to Jacob Pilser, who valued them at \$50, and one to Isaac Klinger, valued at \$35. There was no insurance on the barn or contents.

At 5 o'clock another alarm was turned in from the same box. A frame shed at 28 Wallace street, belonging to Michael Cushing, was found in flames. It was destroyed with its sole contents— an old carpet— the total loss being \$75. No insurance. The barn of Mr. Silas Tam, across the alley, was damaged to the extent of \$25. Insured for \$700 in the Phoenix, of Hartford.

Both fires were the work of incendiaries.

Messrs. Vogel and Hilbrecht, of the fire department, are engaged in constructing a steam heater of their own design.

An alarm of fire from box 51 yesterday forenoon brought the department to Douglass avenue, where a flue in the house of Mr. John Eckert was discovered to be on fire. The damage done was trifling.

On Wednesday evening last the Odd Fellows' building in Maysville caught fire from a defective flue. The flames were extinguished after a loss of about \$150. Fully insured.

To-night the council committees on fire department and on rules, regulations and ordinances will meet for the purpose of preparing joint rules for the government of the fire department. The present paid department is still working— or attempting to work, under the rules which were in vogue when it was a voluntary department.

The committees on fire department and on rules; regulations and ordinances held a meeting yesterday (Sunday) afternoon, and agreed upon a list of rules for the government of the fire department, which will be presented to the council for ratification to-morrow evening.

The arrangement of the stalls at the engine house is being changed so as to facilitate the exit of the horses when an alarm is given.

The fire alarm this morning was caused by the burning out of a chimney on the frame house at the corner of Barr and Berry streets, owned by Mr. Culbertson, of Toledo.

The new steamer "Charley Zollinger" will be shipped from the Amoskeag works, at Manchester, N. H., Tuesday. The manufacturers say it is a "daisy."

This morning fire alarm box No. 13, on High street, was found to be badly battered up. There is too much tampering with these boxes, and Mayor Zollinger has very sensibly offered a reward for the apprehension of the rascals who do the dirty work.

The fire committee met last night and audited several bills. It was decided to report against a new fire cistern in the ninth ward and also against the location of a fire alarm box at the corner of Taylor street and Broadway.

Last night, at the fire, an unknown individual under the influence of poor whisky made himself entirely "too numerous," and was therefore placed in the cooler, from which he emerged at a late hour a sadder and soberer man.

FIRE LAST EVENING.

Last evening about 6:30 the St. John's German Reformed church, at the corner of Webster and Washington streets, had a narrow escape from destruction by fire. The fire caught from the furnace, but an alarm was promptly turned in from box 7, and the fire department responded promptly and soon had the blaze extinguished. A large part of the floor was burned, the total loss not exceeding \$100. The church is insured for \$10,000 in the Home.

Last evening two false alarms of fire were turned in, calling out the department and alarming our citizens. These false alarms are getting to be of frequent appearance. They involve serious wear and tear of the apparatus and are a nuisance in every way. Last evening the boxes were found locked and no clue was obtained to the scamps who had been tampering with the wires. If these alarms are to continue, the telegraph might as well be done away with and a return made to the old system.

"Dave," the engine house dog, is over thirteen years of age and is becoming very infirm, being very deaf and almost blind. He was born in the engine house and is so much of a fixture that the boys look forward to his approaching inevitable dissolution with much sadness.

The alarm of fire yesterday morning was caused by the burning of a chimney in a brick building on East Columbia street. No damage. The alarm in the evening was a false one.

The new steamer has not yet arrived. It was shipped from Manchester, N. H., on the 14th, and has therefore been sixteen days on the road. It is believed to be snowed in between Cleveland and Buffalo.

THE "CHARLEY ZOLLINGER."

ARRIVAL OF THE NEW STEAMER – HAPPY FIRE LADDIES.

The new fire steamer, "Charley Zollinger," which has so long been on the way arrived last evening over the Saginaw road, and this morning was taken to the engine house by the firemen. Pat Bulger handled the reins and looked unusually proud as he sat on top of the new "masheen." The engine was manufactured by the Amoskeag works, and was shipped on the 16th inst., having been snowed up for some time between Cleveland and Buffalo. It is first class in size, and indeed in every other respect, and is believed to be the equal of any engine ever manufactured. It has piston pumps, the rotary pumps having been tried in Fort Wayne so fully that no more of them are wanted.

The engine looked somewhat demoralized by reason of the accumulations of snow and dirt, but when scoured up and burnished it will be as "pretty as a picture." The boys were aching to get at it, and were soon busily engaged in working a wonderful transformation in its appearance. The name "Charley Zollinger" appears at the front and rear of the engine, on the center globe and on all of the lanterns. There is a deep center seat for the driver, which is safer and more comfortable than the side seats.

A telegram announcing the arrival of the steamer was at once forwarded to the manufacturers at Manchester, N. H., and an expert will reach here in a day or two to conduct the test in the presence of the city officers and council.

The department now has four steamers: the "Frank Randall," purchased in 1860; the "Vigilant," purchased in 1863; the "Anthony Wayne," purchased in 1872, and the "Charley Zollinger," just arrived. Of these steamers, the Vigilant and the Charley Zollinger were made at the Amoskeag works, Manchester, N. H., and the Frank Randall and Anthony Wayne at the works of the Silsby Company, Seneca Falls, N. Y.

A representative from the Amoskeag works is expected here to-morrow to superintend the test of the new steamer, which will take place as soon as the weather moderates.

DRUG STORE UP.

A \$1000 BLAZE WARMS THINGS UP, SUNDAY NIGHT.

Last evening, about 6:30, a fire broke out in the rear of E. H. Nill & Co.'s drug store, No. 80 Calhoun street, and in a short time the building was in flames. An alarm was sounded from box 5-2, and the fire was soon extinguished. The building was damaged by fire to the extent of \$300. The stock and the contents of the sleeping room occupied by the Nill brothers were damaged \$700. The insurance was as follows: on building, \$2,500, divided equally between the Shawmut, of Boston, the Traders, of Chicago, the Commonwealth, of Philadelphia, and the Royal Canadian of Montreal; on stock, \$1,500 in the Commonwealth.

The books, etc., in Dr. Purman's room were badly injured by water.

The office of the Masonic Temple Association is in this building, and there was a hurried removal of all of the contents to Mr. Reiter's store. Everything was saved, but the papers, numbers, etc., were thrown into so much confusion that another postponement of the drawing was rendered necessary.

SPARKS.

Saturday evening at 7:30 an alarm was turned in from 1-6, caused by a blaze in the building No. 274 Calhoun street, owned by Ed. Driscoll. The fire resulted from a defective flue. Loss, \$10.00.

A fire caught in the basement of Trinity Church, yesterday, from the furnace. Damage, \$25.00.

* Engineer Bean, of the Amoskeag company, is in the city. He made a trial of the Charles Zollinger at the east end of Columbia Street, it worked splendidly.

FORT WAYNE DAILY SENTINEL

Tuesday

01/07/1879

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FIRE DEPARTMENT ITEMS.

Engineer John Graf has been suspended by the fire committee on a charge of insubordination. The council will act upon his case.

Two new horses are wanted for the use of the department.

As soon as the new steamer goes into use the Anthony Wayne will undergo some necessary repairs.

The department has about 2,000 feet of good hose, and needs 1,000 more.

The council at its next session will probably authorize the mayor to offer a large reward for the apprehension of parties guilty of tampering with the fire alarm telegraph.

The fire committee will not report in favor of any more cisterns or alarm boxes at present.

The subject of distributing the fire apparatus to various sections of the city is again being agitated, and will probably be brought to the attention of the council at an early date.

The old project of selling off the second ward engine house property is again being discussed in certain quarters.

STEAMER TRIAL.

This afternoon the new fire steamer "Charley Zollinger" was formally tested near the old Comparet warehouse, at the foot of Columbia street. The engine with three men, fuel, and three gauges of water, weighed 7,900 pounds. The net weight is 7,400 pounds. In six minutes after smoke came out of the stack twenty pounds of steam were raised. A 1 ½ inch nozzle was used, and through 500 feet of hose a steady solid stream was thrown a distance of 180 feet. The wind was very unfavorable. The new engine works smoothly and easily, stands firmly and is a model. There was an average steam pressure of ninety pounds during the test. When the reporter left preparations were making for tests with different sized nozzles and through a longer line of hose.

RANDALL AND ZOLLINGER.

THEY HAVE A COMPARATIVE TEST— THAT IS, THE ENGINES OF THOSE NAMES.

Yesterday the trial of the new steamer, after the first test, reported in last evening's Sentinel, was continued through lines of hose 150, 750 and 1,000 feet long. The maximum distance thrown was 180 feet, which was reached on the first test. The steam pressure averaged about 100 pounds and the water pressure from 250 to 275.

The Frank Randall steamer, a rotary engine built by the Silsby Company and recently rebuilt by Kerr Murray, of this city, was then brought out and did magnificent work, throwing with 90 pounds of steam a solid stream of water a greater distance than could be reached by the new engine. There was larger crowd present, and the excitement ran high, in as much as there were two factions; one favoring the "Charley Zollinger" and the other championing the "Frank Randall". The latter has been in service about seventeen years, and is now as good an engine as can be found anywhere. It only needs a new set of wheels to render it entirely serviceable.

It will be remembered that the Sentinel alone, of all the city papers, favored the rebuilding of the Randall steamer by a Fort Wayne institution, while the other papers declared that this would be a useless waste of money. The results has vindicated the Sentinel's judgement, and is a large sized feather in Fort Wayne's cap, of which every citizen should be proud.

GRIM VISAGED WAR.

BREAKS OUT WITH MUCH FURY IN THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

A "Sentinel" Reporter Investigates— Interview with Chief Vogel.

The fire department, after a long period of abnormal quietude, is again stirred up with internal dissensions arising from various causes. Chief Vogel is being hauled over the coals quite vigorously by his ancient enemies, reinforced by some former friends who are

OFF WITH THE OLD LOVE,

and by whom he is charged with divers and sundry offenses. The News, which has always adhered closely to Vogel's fortunes, seems to have soured on him, and the Gazette this morning prints an attack of nearly a column upon him. The Sentinel has no desire to mix in this fight but only cares to see fair play. A reporter therefore called upon Chief Vogel this morning, and proceeded to pump him.

"What's the racket all about, Mr. Chief?" asked the scribe in his usual fascinating manner.

"O, election is approaching, and I'm getting some free advertising," was the reply.

R.— Well, what about the Graf trouble?

V.— My letter in the News last night was correct. I didn't want to suspend Graf. I told him that he could return to work, if he would obey orders in future. He said he had never considered me his boss, and never would. Mr. McCulloch, chairman of the fire committee, then suspended him, and said if one of his employes would talk to him that way, he would be kicked out of the store.

R.— How about the Randall steamer?

V.— The charge that I ever placed the engine under any disadvantage is

A BARE-FACED LIE.

Why, on Monday the engine didn't throw within twelve or fifteen feet of the new steamer, and, if it had been kept running four hours, it would have gone all to pieces and made nothing but a scrap pile. The boiler is leaking now so that the engine will have to be fixed before it is used again. One main objection against the engine is that it is too heavy. It weighs 9,800 pounds, 2,400 more than the new steamer, and when the roads are anyway bad or rough it takes four horses to pull it. Last night, in responding to the alarm from box 1-7, one of the wheels went through a plank and broke one of the footboards. A large force of men had to take hold and help the horses start the engine again or it would have been there yet.

R.— Wouldn't a new set of wheels make the engine all right?

V.— They would help, but Mr. Murray ought to have put them on, as he took the contract to return the steamer

IN FIRST CLASS SHAPE.

I don't say the Randall isn't a good engine in some respects, nor that it won't do good work, but I'll bet I can take the old Vigilant out and beat it.

R.— Are you on bad terms with the fire committee?

V.— Not at all. We are on the very best of terms. I never had an unpleasant word with anyone of them, and never attempted to keep them out of my office.

R.— Do you have trouble with the men?

V.— No, sir. None of my men will complain of me. So long as they do their work well, they are always treated nicely.

R.— Does the present department work smoothly?

V.— First rate. The story that it is composed of boys is all bosh. There isn't a person employed under me who is not over twenty-one years of age. They are all good men and do their work well.

By invitation of Mr. Vogel, the reporter visited the engine house and
PUMPED THE "BOYS."

All of them said they had no fault to find with the treatment given them by the chief.

Pat Bulger, the driver of the Frank Randall, said so far as he knew the steamer always had a fair chance, but that the main trouble was its excessive weight.

Councilman Putnam here put in appearance and asked the chief if it were true as reported, that he sent for the city's men to come to his house and made them go and get oysters for him.

The chief laughed and said that it wasn't true. The only foundation for the story was that on a recent cold night when he was sick at home he sent for a driver on city business. Mike Connors responded, and when he left Vogel asked him as a favor to tell his (Vogel's) hostler to bring him up some oysters.

The reporter visited Councilman Vordermark, of the fire committee, and asked him concerning the relations of the chief and the committee. Mr. Vordermark said they were entirely pleasant and satisfactory to the best of his knowledge and belief.

Councilman Chittenden, of the fire committee, said there was no serious trouble between the committee and the chief. The chief was sometimes too dictatorial and inclined to assume too much authority, but the committee was not disposed to abdicate any of its functions. Vogel was in most respects a good chief. In the recent troubles Mr. Chittenden thought both sides somewhat to blame.

Councilman McCulloch, chairman of the committee, was out of the city and therefore escaped an interview.

It was developed during the reporter's tour of investigation that Councilman Hettler and Chief Vogel, instead of being intimate friends as formerly are now bitter enemies of several months standing.

At the next meeting of the council the ordinance for the government of the department will come up, and also the Graf matter and the question of accepting the new steamer. A lively racket may be expected.

The Vigilant steamer is out of repair.

Fort Wayne is the luckiest city in the country in respect to exemption from large fires.

Another false alarm— this time from box 1-7— called out the fire department last night.

The Frank Randall steamer is to be driven over the West Main street bridge Saturday, by way of test.

Louis Steup was to-day elected postmaster of the state senate, and started at once for Indianapolis to enter upon the discharge of his duties.

It is stated that Kerr Murray offers to put up \$500 that the Randall steamer can beat the Zollinger at any test that may be proposed.

FIRE DEPARTMENT MATTERS.

The fire committee met this morning and audited a number of bills. It was decided to refer back the question of accepting the Vigilant steamer to the council, the committee claiming that Mr. Murray did not fulfill his contract, and he claiming that he did. The suspension of Engineer Graf, with the reasons therefor, will also be reported without recommendation.

Some one broke a key in fire alarm box No. 34 last evening.

There are now twenty-six fire alarm boxes in the city. When the system was introduced there were sixteen boxes.

WIND WORKS.

IN FULL BLAST AT THE COUNCIL CHAMBER LAST EVENING.

THE VOGEL-GRAF TROUBLE REFERRED BACK TO THE FIRE COMMITTEE.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE VIGILANT STEAMER AFTER A WARM DEBATE.

PASSAGE OF THE ORDINANCE FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The fire committee reported as follows: T His Honor, the Mayor, and Gentlemen of the Common Council:

Your committee on fire department respectfully report that in the matter of the 5th section of our last report, referred back to us, in relation to the Vigilant engine, that the engineers of the department say that said engine cannot be made first-class, according to specifications and contract, without a new fire box, as that was the main cause of her needing repairs; and that the experts have no authority under the contract to accept said engine, they being only judges of material actually used and workmanship actually performed, and are not judges of the amount to be done.

The contract above referred to is hereunto appended, and made a part of this report.

Your committee, under the circumstances cannot recommend the acceptance of said engine.

Respectfully submitted,

F. H. McCulloch,

J. W. Vordermark,

The report was received and placed on file.

A minority report, signed by Mr. Chittenden, recommending that the entire matter be referred to the experts, Messrs. Boone and McKean, for their opinion was received and placed on file.

The same committee reported the suspension of Engineer John Graf for cause.

Mr. Muhler moved to refer back.

Mr. Graham moved to amend by instructing the committee to report the causes of the suspension.

Mr. Hettler charged that the committee had not acted according to law, having failed to suspend Mr. Graf by letter.

Mr. McCulloch responded that Mr. Graf had stated that he considered himself off duty, and that the committee had acted under advice of the city attorney.

Mr. Graham condemned the committee for failing to report all the facts in the matter so that the council might take action intelligently.

Mr. McCulloch said he was not a lawyer, but had taken the city attorney's advice. The committee had reported the suspension to the council, and awaited the further instructions of

that body. Mr. Graf had refused to obey the orders of the chief, whether right or wrong. If they were wrong he had his redress.

Mr. Graham demanded charges in writing against Mr. Graf. He wanted the matter sent back to the committee, to get written charges from the chief, investigate the case, and report fully at the next meeting.

Mr. McCulloch said that there were no charges because there was no tribunal to try them before.

Capt. Hettler made a vigorous speech denouncing the chief engineer severely and criticizing the committee for their action. He said if the principle maintained by the committee was endorsed by the council "our republic would fall to pieces." He said Graf was one of the best engineers we ever had, and that he had many times saved engines from destruction by disobeying the orders of his chief.

Mr. McCulloch thought a good deal of wind was being wasted. The gentlemen reminded him of the windbags for sale at the Fruit House, which whistle when they are squeezed. Mr. Graf had not been treated unjustly. The action of the committee was purely preliminary. The council was the tribunal to try him. It might perhaps delegate its power to a committee.

Mr. Graham said a good many little boys had been knocked over by those wind bags sold at the Fruit House, and some big boys would be knocked over by other wind bags if they were not careful. He said the council could not try Graf until the committee or the chief preferred charges, as required by law.

Mr. Cody thought no man should be hung until he had a trial.

Mr. McCulloch said he was as anxious to have Mr. Graf receive a full hearing as any member of the council.

Mr. Bash thought the matter should be referred back to the committee.

Mr. Graham's motion referring back the report to the fire committee with instructions to have the chief engineer prefer charges in writing to the committee, to take evidence and report the same and their conclusions to the council at its next meeting, was carried.

The fire committee reported in favor of accepting the "Charley Zollinger" steamer. Referred to the fire committee.

ORDINANCES.

An ordinance regulating the government of the fire department, as prepared by the judiciary committee was adopted unanimously.

RESOLUTIONS.

A resolution to accept the Vigilant steamer and pay Kerr Murray his bill was offered by Mr. Graham.

Mr. Hogan moved to adopt.

Mr. Muhler moved to refer to a special committee of three, with Mr. Graham as chairman, with power to act.

The matter was discussed by Messrs. Muhler, Graham, Hettler and others.

Mr. Graham claimed that the contract had been fulfilled.

Mr. Vondermark said the contract called for the engine to be placed in first-class condition. The flues leak and the fire box is in bad shape, and the committee does not consider that "first-class condition."

Mr. McCulloch said Mr. Murray had admitted that the engine needed a new fire box, but wanted the committee to have him put in a new fire box and allow him \$175 therefor, although the contract provided that Mr. Murray should not be paid for any extra material or work.

Mr. Graham read the contract and insisted that the council had no alternative but to accept the engine.

Mr. Hettler said the council ought to take action and accept the engine at once.

Mr. Muhler said the chief engineer, two fire committees and the city attorney had all reported against the acceptance of the engine. He said the experts had never made any official report to the council.

In response to Mr. Hettler's reflections upon the fire committee, Mr. McCulloch said he thought the committee was doing as well now as when Mr. Hettler was chairman.

Mr. Chittenden, referring to the contract said that the specifications were like the flues— they leaked.

After further discussion, the question on Mr. Muhler's amendment to refer to a special committee with power to act, was lost by a vote of 4 ayes to 14 noes.

Mr. Graham's resolution was then adopted by the following vote: Ayes— Bash, Breen, Chittenden, Fox, Graham, Hettler, Hogan, Holmes, Leinker, Putnam, Reese, Reidmiller and Wilkinson— 13.

Nays— McCulloch, Muhler and Vondermark— 3.

The fire committee will meet this evening to take action in the Graf matter as directed by the council.

The alarm this afternoon was caused by a small blaze in Mrs. Dr. Green's house on West Main street. Damage small.

FIRE.

An alarm was turned in this morning at 3:30 from box 2-4, caused by a fire in the one-story frame dwelling house of Fred. Guth at No. 2 Hanna street. The damage done was about \$50; insured for \$300 in the Home of New York. The fire was caused by hot ashes. The box was broken badly in turning in the alarm.

At the council meeting Tuesday night Mr. Hettler stated that we have no legal first and second assistant chief engineers of the fire department. Chief Vogel having failed to make his appointments last spring, as required by law.

Chief Engineer Vogel has preferred charges against John Graf, and the matter will be investigated by the fire committee on Friday evening.

The new heater was attached to the Randall steamer to-day, and worked well.

The fire committee will meet to-morrow evening to investigate the Graf case.

The paid members of the fire department drew an undershirt and a bottle of perfumery in the lottery.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

TEXT OF THE NEW ORDINANCE REGULATING ITS GOVERNMENT.

The following is the full text of the ordinance regulating the fire department recently passed by the council.

AN ORDINANCE

Relating to and regulating the government of the Fort Wayne fire department, and defining the powers and duties of the members thereof:

Section 1. Be it ordained by the common council of the city of Fort Wayne, that the fire department of said city shall consist of a chief engineer, a first and second assistant chief engineer, as many foreman, enginemen, hosemen, truckmen and other persons as may be deemed necessary by the common council; to be divided into companies as the number of engines and fire apparatus, belonging to the city in active service, shall from time to time require.

Sec. 2. The fire committee shall consist of three members of the common council, to be appointed by the mayor. It shall be their duty to examine and report to the council upon all matters relating to the fire department referred to them by the common council. They shall at all times have free access to all and every portion of all the engine houses, rooms, stables and premises, and power to examine and report upon the condition of all fire apparatus and property of said department. And upon receiving notice of suspension of any member by the chief engineer, said committee, together with the mayor, shall give such suspended member a fair and impartial trial, and shall not remove any such member without first giving him an opportunity to be heard and defend his case. The said committee, together with the mayor, shall have power to suspend, expel, fine or reinstate any such suspended member. They shall have power at all times to purchase all feed, fuel and supplies necessary as the same from time to time are needed. And in case of emergency shall have power to have any of the Fire apparatus repaired sufficiently to keep them fit for service.

Sec. 3. The chief engineer shall keep a record of all doings and workings of said fire department subject at all times to inspection. He shall semi-annually in the months of April and October, at its first regular meeting in each month, make an accurate report to the common council of the doings and condition of said department. And shall make special reports at such times as the common council shall by resolution require. He, together with the fire committee, shall have the appointment of and entire control over the employes and property of said department. The chief shall have power to suspend any employe for cause, and in case of the suspension of any employes, it shall be his duty to at once notify the fire committee thereof in writing, giving his reasons therefor. The chief engineer shall be held accountable for the safe and proper care of all city property in his custody as such chief. He shall make such rules and regulations for the government, discipline and good order of the department as he may from time

to time deem expedient; such rules and regulations before taking effect to be first ratified and approved by two-thirds vote of the council. He shall at fires have sole command over all officers, employes and persons who may be present. It shall be his duty to examine into the condition of all cisterns, fire apparatus and houses connected therewith and report the same to the fire committee of the council. He shall, upon dereliction of duty, malfeasance in office, or the violation of any of the provisions of this ordinance or the rules and regulations governing the said department be removed by the common council at its pleasure.

Sec. 4. The first and second assistant chief engineers shall be appointed by the chief engineer at the first meeting after his appointment, and such appointments to be confirmed by the common council. The assistant engineer shall assist the chief engineer and obey his orders, and in the absence of the chief engineer take command according to rank, and perform the duties and have the powers of the chief engineer at fires and on other occasions.

Sec. 5. The chief engineer, or in his absence the person acting as chief, with the concurrence of the mayor, or in his absence with the concurrence of any fire councilman, may direct the firemen to take down, blow up, or cause to be blown up or destroy, any building or erection during the progress of a fire, for the purpose of checking or extinguishing the same.

Sec. 6. The officers and employes of said department with their apparatus shall, at all times when on duty, have the right away over and across any highway, and shall have power to stop any train necessary when going to or working at a fire, except such trains as carry the United States mail: and any person in or upon any such highway or train who shall refuse such right of way or willfully obstruct any fire apparatus, officer or men, shall, upon conviction, forfeit and pay a fine to said city not to exceed one hundred dollars.

Sec. 7. No person shall go over any hose of the fire department when laid down to be used with any vehicle without first having obtained the consent of the chief engineer or officer in command.

Sec. 8. The chief and assistant engineers shall have all the power of police officers during the continuance of a fire, to suppress disturbances and to arrest any person who may commit any breach of the peace, or any depredation or injury to the property of another or who shall refuse to obey any order or direction lawfully given by said engineer or his assistants, and to conduct the offender before the mayor or other proper magistrate, or if necessary to commit him to the county prison or jail until a hearing can be had.

Sec. 9. All members of the department shall be furnished by the chief with a copy of the fire ordinances and rules and regulations of said department to be provided by the city, and a copy of said ordinances, rules and regulations, shall be framed and placed in a prominent place in each engine house, and it shall be the duty of all officers and members to conform to all the requirements of such ordinances, rules and regulations.

Sec. 10. The mayor shall have the power at any time to offer such reward as he may deem necessary for the detection of persons tampering with or in any manner injuring the fire alarm telegraph, and in case of the arrest and conviction of any person for such unlawful acts, they shall be fined in any sum not less than one hundred dollars, and stand committed until the same is paid or replevied.

Sec. 11. All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict with any of the provisions of this ordinance are hereby repealed.

Sec. 12. This ordinance shall be in force and take effect from and after its passage and legal publication.

Done at the council chamber in the city of Fort Wayne this 14th day of January, 1879.

Attest: C. A. Zollinger, Mayor.

John H. Trentman, City Clerk.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT ROW.

ENGINEER GRAF'S TRIAL ON A CHARGE OF INSUBORDINATION.

Last evening Councilmen McCulloch and Vordermark, of the fire committee, tried John Graf, late engineer, on a charge of disobedience of orders on the 2d of January, preferred by Chief Vogel.

The chief was the chief witness. He declined to take the oath on the ground that he was a sworn officer of the city. He stated in brief that on the day in question he ordered Graf and Hilbrecht to help clean the new steamer. Hilbrecht then went to work, but Graf walked off and was only seen once again that day, when he stood by the stove in the engine house a moment and then walked away. Another man was hired to do the work, and \$1 was deducted from Graf's pay as a fine for disobedience. Graf remonstrated and reported to Mr. McCulloch, by whose order the money was restored to him. Messrs. McCulloch, Graf and Vogel had a conversation in the latter's store in which Graf said he had never considered Mr. Vogel his boss and never would. He was then suspended by order of Mr. McCulloch.

Herman Hartung, Gottlieb Steup and Herman Sigmund testified that they heard Graf say that he did not consider Vogel his boss and never would.

Graf testified that on the 31st of December, in the morning, Vogel told him he might go over and help get the new engine, if he wanted to. He said he did not care about going, if it was all the same, and walked away. The chief afterwards sent for him, and he assisted to the best of his ability. After he returned to the house the chief told him to help clean the engine. He was then engaged on other work by order of Vogel, which took him until noon, and which was necessary to be done. He had no idea of disobeying orders. Nothing more was said until the 2d of January, when witness found \$1 deducted from his pay. He spoke to Mayor Zollinger and Mr. Chittenden, who referred him to Mr. McCulloch, who went with him to Vogel's store. Mr. McCulloch asked him why Graf was fined. He said disobedience of orders. Witness then said that he had disobeyed because he thought the chief had no right to order him to clean the engine until the city had accepted it. He said it was witness's duty to obey all his orders and witness said Vogel could no more make him clean the engine than he could make him clean his spittoon. Vogel got terribly excited, called witness a liar and told him to get out of the saloon and be off. Witness refused and said he had reported himself off duty to Mr. McCulloch. The latter then had some words with the chief about the latter's right to fine one of his men, and Vogel finally admitted that he had no such right. He promised to go to the clerk and order him to pay witness the dollar, but witness called on the clerk several times since, the last time so late as the 20th inst., and found that the chief had given no order to refund the dollar.

Witness was cross examined at some length by Mr. Vogel, but nothing more of importance developed.

All of the witnesses testified under oath except Mr. Vogel. The committee will meet again prior to the next session of the council, when Mr. McCulloch will give his evidence. The testimony will probably be laid before the council next Tuesday evening without recommendation.

The alarm of fire from box 1-7 last night was caused by the burning out of a chimney in a house occupied by Mrs. France at No. 122 Creighton avenue. No damage.

The fire committee to-day removed John Graf, engineer in the fire department, and appointed John Schrader in his place.

The fire department engineers are well paid — \$85 per month.

THE NEW STEAMER.

Chief Engineer Vogel has notified the manufactures of the new fire steamer that the council desires another test, and requested them either to send a man to conduct the test or allow him to test it without prejudice to the city. The chief is confident that he can station the engine at the canal and throw a solid stream of water over the court house.

A bright light was visible southwest of the city last night, causing the belief that a large fire was raging in that direction. It appears that the light was caused by the burning of the prairie between the Godfrey farm and the Smith place.

The Alert Hook and Ladder Company meets the first Wednesday evening in each month. The ringing of the fire bell indicates a fire. The foreman will please take notice.

It was intended to have called Chief Vogel to the stage last evening, and put him under the mesmeric influence, but the chief's friends persuaded Prof. Carpenter not to do so, fearing that Vogel would cry out "fire" and create a panic in the audience that might result disastrously.

SICKENING HORROR.

A BOY IN JEFFERSON TOWNSHIP BURNED TO DEATH.

THE BODY ALMOST ENTIRELY CONSUMED- ANOTHER PERSON FATALLY BURNED

This morning about half-past 3 o'clock the log dwelling house of Mr. Daniel a. Null, in Jefferson township, three and a half miles east of New Haven, and one and a half miles north of Maples, caught fire from a defective chimney and was totally destroyed with all of its contents. Mr. Null and his wife were sleeping on the first floor. On the second floor his son Jesse, aged about sixteen, and a young man named Harler, who worked for Mr. Null, were asleep. They occupied different beds in the same room. Mr. Null's daughter was not present, as she was passing the night at the house of a neighbor.

Mr. And Mrs. Null were awakened about 3:40 by Harler, and found their
HOUSE WRAPPED IN FLAMES.

They hastened from the burning building, escaping with nothing on but their night clothes. Harler was found to be terribly burned about the head, neck, arms, shoulders and legs. He was removed to the residence of Mr. Kelly, a neighbor, where he was lying in the

MOST EXCRUTIATING AGONY

at last accounts, no hope being entertained for his recovery.

The boy, Jessie Null, was burned to death. This morning but a small portion of the trunk of his body could be found, being the portion extending from the collar-bone to below the sternum. The legs were burned completely off. A part of the head was found and pieces of the feet and hands.

Harler was in the habit of rising very early. It is supposed that he started down stairs to see what time it was, when he was struck in the face by the blaze as he descended. Although badly burned he succeeded in saving Mr. And Mrs. Null. He then went to the stable and turned the horses out, Mr. Null made a futile attempt to get up stairs to

RESCUE HIS SON,

burning his hands shockingly in the endeavor.

Mr. Null's loss is about \$1,500. It was not learned whether he had any insurance. He was preparing to build a new dwelling, and some of the material was burned. He is a cousin of Dr. Null of New Haven. Harler is a relative. Mr. And Mrs. Null have the sympathy of all who know them.

The new steamer had an informal test yesterday and worked splendidly. A formal test will probably take place on Monday afternoon.

The new engine was tried this afternoon, and threw a solid stream of water over the court house tower.

Hiler, who was so badly burned in the Null fire in Jefferson township on Friday night, has since died of his injuries.

would give a bond for \$10,000 to build as good a steamer for \$3,000.

Mr. Hettler said if the council would hold on a little it could get this engine for \$3,000 thus making a savings of \$1,250.

After several amendments were made the resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Ayes— Bash, Breen, Cody, Dreyer, Fox, Hogan, McCulloch, Muhler, Putnam, Reese, Reidmiller, Vordermark, Wilkinson— 13.

Nays— Graham, Hettler, Holmes, Leinker— 4.

A resolution for the repair of the Vigilant and Anthony Wayne steamers was, after a spirited discussion referred to the fire committee.

Mr. Graham offered a resolution instructing the fire committee to inquire as to the expense and feasibility of locating one of the steamers in the seventh ward.

After considerable discussion the resolution was amended so as to provide for an inquiry by the fire committee as to the feasibility and cost of making a general distribution of the steamers. It was then adopted.

FORT WAYNE DAILY SENTINEL Wednesday 02/12/1879 Page 4, Col. 2.

The new steamer has been accepted.

The gas bills incurred for illuminating the engine house and police station are enormous, and the council last evening ordered an investigation.

CHARRED CHAIRS.

DESTRUCTION OF BURKHOLDER'S FURNITURE FACTORY BY FIRE.

LOSS ABOUT \$9,000— NO INSURANCE.

At 10:30 last evening the furniture factory of Joseph Burkholder, located on Pearl street, between Griffith and Ewing streets caught fire from the engine. The building was of frame and extended from Pearl street to the canal bank. About half of it was two stories high, the rear portion being only one story.

As the building was old and dry and the contents very inflammable, the flames soon acquired such headway that it seemed impossible to drown them out. The Anthony Wayne and Vigilant steamers played solid streams upon the fire for several hours, the firemen remaining until daylight.

The building was practically a total loss. It was owned by Calvin P. Smith, of New York City and was worth \$1,000. It was not insured. Mr. Burkholder's loss on Machinery, tools and stock was about \$8,000, and he likewise was uninsured, a fact probably due to the high rate of premiums charged upon such risks. A large quantity of lumber belonging to Mr. B., which was on the lot adjoining the burned building, was saved.

The dense masses of smoke which were emitted from the burning building, moving gracefully upwards in vast clouds, the hues ever changing with the varying reflections from the flames beneath, and showers of sparks occasionally forcing a way through the vapory mass, formed a beautiful picture, which was viewed with much admiration by the hundreds who had gathered to witness the fire.

Twenty men were employed in the factory and they are thrown out of employment, temporarily at least, by its destruction.

A BIG BLAZE.

CAPT. EMERY'S DWELLING HOUSE DESTROYED BY FIRE.

Last evening at about 9 o'clock Capt. Chas. Emery's two story frame dwelling house on Broadway Park avenue, South Wayne, caught fire from a defective flue, and was entirely destroyed. A part of the contents were saved, but in a damaged condition. The major portion, however, was destroyed, including a quantity of clothing; about \$500 worth of books and a handsome sword presented the captain by his soldiers and prized by him very highly.

The loss on building and contents is estimated at \$2,500; insured for \$1,200 in the North American of Philadelphia.

The fire not being in the city limits, and there being no water available, the engines did not proceed further than Henry street. The blaze made a brilliant illumination, which was visible quite a long time.

THE FIRE STEAMERS.

SOMETHING ABOUT THE PROPOSED DISTRIBUTION.
IT WILL INVOLVE A LARGE INCREASE OF EXPENSE.

At the last meeting of the city council a resolution was adopted instructing the fire committee to investigate as to the feasibility and probable expense of distributing the fire steamers in the different sections of the city. As is well known Fort Wayne covers more territory than most cities containing double the population. Upon the area bounded on the west by the St. Mary's River, on the east by Glasgow avenue, and on the south by "stumptown" and South Wayne, and extending northward a considerable distance beyond the canal feeder, a population of 60,000 to 70,000 souls could be easily maintained. The extensive manufacturing establishments of the city, in which large amounts of capital are invested, and which give employment to thousands of men, are located in the extremities of the city. The protection of these institutions against fire is justly regarded as a matter of prime importance to the best interests of the city. The entire fire department is now located at the second ward engine house, rendering it almost impossible to reach distant portions of the city in time to extinguish any fire which may attain considerable dimensions. Under the present arrangement, in the event of two fires breaking out at the same time in opposite extremities of town—a thing of course liable to occur at any time—it would be impossible to do prompt and effective work at both of them.

A Sentinel reporter this morning called upon Councilman McCulloch, chairman of the fire committee, to learn what report, if any, had been agreed upon by the committee for submission to the council next Tuesday night. Mr. McCulloch said that to give the subject the attention its importance demands, it would be necessary for the committee to give to the investigation more time than had yet been at its disposal. Therefore, the council would be asked, next Tuesday evening, to grant the committee further time in which to make a report. Mr. McCulloch said that the distribution of the fire steamers was a most desirable thing, the only question being as to the ability of the city, at the present time to afford it. With the present number of steamers and amount of apparatus, it would only be possible to establish two additional engine houses. One should be located some place as convenient as possible to the large manufacturing institutions in the southern and eastern portions of the city; another at some point as convenient as possible to the northern and extreme western portions of town, including Nebraska. It would be necessary to purchase two lots, but these might possibly be exchanged for real estate now owned by the city. Two new engine houses would cost from \$4,000 to \$5,000; these houses would have to be fitted up for the accommodation of paid men; another team would have to be purchased; an additional engineer and driver, and about eight minute men would have to be employed; gongs and bell strikers for the fire alarm telegraph and would have to be purchased and the telegraph itself extended, etc., etc. All these changes would cost a good deal of money, and, in Mr. McCulloch's opinion, the expense of the department for the first two years under the new arrangement would be \$25,000 to \$30,000 per annum, instead of \$12,000 to \$14,000 as at present. After the first two years, when the permanent improvements are paid for, the expense need not be so large.

After the fire committee makes a more through investigation, it will be possible for a close estimate to be made as to the increased expense attendant upon the proposed distribution. The report will be presented to the council, and if that body thinks the city can afford it, the distribution will undoubtedly be ordered.

The Anthony Wayne steamer has been taken to pieces and will undergo thorough repairs.

THE ALERTS.

The Alert Hook and Ladder Company now has thirty-nine members as follows: L. T. Bourie, F. F. Boltz, J. H. Bass, John Bostick, C. S. Brackenridge, A. H. Carier, C. F. Eme, W. O. Ford, W. Haskell, A. Holsworth, Geo. Humbrecht, T. B. Hedekin, R. Hanson, H. Gerardin, Chas. Goodman, Anthony Kelker, Jas. M. Kane, I. Lauferty, A. Lordier, Wm. Liechstein, Jos. Mommer, Chas. McCulloch, J. P. Manuel, M. A. Noll, J. G. Noll, A. Parnin, John Phillips, W. Rossington, John Rabb, Gus. Strodel, N. P. Stockbridge, W. D. Scheifer, Geo. Strodel, Geo. Swain, I. Trauerman, H. Trentman, F. B. Vogel, F. Voirol, C. A. Zollinger.

The fire committee will submit a report to the council to-night on the distribution of the steamers. They estimate the cost at \$13,000.

John Mohr jr., is being generally talked of for councilman from the seventh ward, and J. R. Prentiss is quite prominent in the ninth ward in the same connection.

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING.

The fire committee submitted the following report on the location of fire engines:

To His Honor the Mayor and Gentlemen of the Common Council:

Your committee on fire department report that in the matter of the distribution of the engines that, in their opinion, the most suitable places for the engines at present, and in view of further distribution in the future, would be in the east end at or near the intersection of Hanna and Lewis streets, and in the west end at or near the intersection of Broadway and Jefferson streets; and that we have been unable to find suitable buildings for engine houses in either locality, without considerable expense in making repairs and building additions, and therefore it is our opinion that it would be best for the city, if the engines should be distributed, to purchase lots and build engine houses. The probable expense would be between \$13,00 and \$14,000, and about \$3,000 additional running expense per annum.

In the matter of repairs of engines, we would report that the Anthony Wayne needs new smoke flues and water tubes, and new top sheet or boiler head. Some leaks in shell of boiler needs repairing; gauge cock pipes to be made to screw on boiler with couplings, leaks to be taken up around fire box door, steam cylinders and pumps to be repaired with new gibbs and bearings.

The Vigilant needs new fire box and flues.

The Randall needs boiler repaired.

We also submit a list of members of Alert Hook and Ladder Company, which is made part of this report.

All of which is respectfully submitted. F. H. McCulloch,
J. W. Vordermark,

Committee on fire department

A motion was made to refer that part of the report referring to the Alert Hook and Ladder Company back to the chief engineer, to bring before the next council properly assorted. Carried.

A motion to place the remainder of the report on file was met by strong opposition from Councilman Graham. He thought the engines should be distributed; the many workshops in the south part of the city needed better protection in case of fire. He therefore moved an amendment that the report be referred to a committee of the whole with the mayor added. After some little discussion the amendment was adopted. The balance of the report was received and filed.

The fire committee met this morning and prepared an advertisement for bids for the repairs of the steam engines.

The fire alarm last evening at 6:30 was caused by the burning out of a chimney in the residence of S. H. Ransom, No. 309 West Jefferson street. No damage.

The alarm of fire at 1:30 this morning was caused by a blaze in an unoccupied one story frame dwelling house at No. 46 Bass street, owned by John Fitzpatrick. Damage, \$20; insured for \$400.

Chief Vogel yesterday purchased at Van Wert a fine, large, grey horse for the fire department. He will be used in one of the hose carriages. The amount paid was \$120.

Only one fire steamer— the Charley Zollinger— is now in condition for service.

Bids for repair of the Anthony Wayne, Frank Randall and Vigilant fire steamers will be opened by the council to-morrow evening. The Amoskeag and Silsby companies, Kerr Murray and Olds & Wheelock have presented proposals.

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING.

FIRE DEPARTMENT AND OTHER MATTERS UNDER CONSIDERATION.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

The committee on the fire department reported having received bids for the repair of the fire engines; that the Silsby Company was the lowest bidder for the repair of the Anthony Wayne, and C. L. Olds & Co. for the Vigilant and Frank Randall.

Mr. Graham said he had understood that the specifications were very loose; that certain mechanics would not bid on account of the looseness of the specifications, which would bring about considerable trouble, and the city could not obtain what it wanted.

Mr. Hettler thought the committee was having a little too much sway; that they made purchases without any knowledge of the council, and thought they should not go beyond their limit. The bids should not have been opened by them, but should have been brought into the council sealed.

Mr. Graham— I am creditably informed that the Randall and Vigilant steamers do not need repairing, and would advise that the matter be investigated.

Mr. McCulloch— Any man with common sense, after seeing the water pour into the fire-box, would know that it came from the boiler, and that it needed repairing.

The report of the committee was adopted.

RESOLUTIONS.

A resolution ordering the fire committee to contract with the Silsby Co. for the repair of the Anthony Wayne steamer and with C. L. Olds & Co. for the repair of the Vigilant and Frank Randall engines provoked an animated discussion between Messrs. Graham, Vordermark, Hettler, McCulloch and Cody, and was referred to the fire committee with instructions to employ a competent mechanic to assist in revising the specifications.

A fire yesterday threatened the destruction of the woodhouse of H. B. Fry, on West Lewis street. It was caused by a burning ash barrel, and was extinguished before any damage was done.

The alarm from box 3-4, at 5:30 last evening was caused by the burning out of a chimney at No. 123 Williams street. No damage.

The alarm of fire this morning at 9 o'clock was caused by a small blaze in the Muncie telegraph office in Bloomingdale, which caught from the chimney. Damage nominal.

FIRE FACTS.

CHIEF VOGEL'S ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CONDITION, EXPENSES AND OPERATION
OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Chief Engineer Vogel's annual report was submitted to the council last evening. It is as follows:

H'dq'rs Ft. Wayne City Fire Dep't.
Cor. Court and Berry Sts.
April 19, 1879.

To His Honor the Mayor and Gentlemen of the Common Council:
Herewith I have the pleasure of presenting my fifth annual report, ending April 1st, 1879.

FORCE OF THE DEPARTMENT

The department, which is reorganized since June, 1878 consists of 1 chief and 2 assistant chiefs, 7 full paid men, 1 half paid man as tillerman, and 16 minute men, and the Alert Hook and Ladder Co. No. 1, which are running as volunteers up to the present time.

The wants and necessities of the department are intrusted to the committee on fire department and the management to the chief engineer by an act of the city council.

On these gentlemen devolves a heavy responsibility, and the citizens generally look to them for the good standing and management of the department.

The position of a fireman is one of much responsibility and great trust. It requires a man of more than ordinary intelligence, of quick perceptions, and honest, as well as being active. I do not hesitate to say that the members of the department have these qualifications.

EXPENDITURES ONLY OF RUNNING EXPENSES.

A voucher for every cent expended for running expense can be seen and referred to at my office.

The total expense for running the department for the past year is \$12, 736. 19. My financial report which accompanies this report will give the details what the above amount has been expended for.

The cost for the repair of the Frank Randall and Vigilant engines is not included in the above amount, which is \$1,975, but was ordered by your honorable body not to be paid, which really does not belong to running expenses.

HOUSES.

The houses are in good condition since the floor which was rotten and dangerous in the engine room has been taken out and replaced by a new one, and the stalls in the hook and ladder and hose carriage room changed, by which the efficiency is very much improved and adds a great deal of comfort to the horses.

APPARATUS.

One new first class Amoskeag engine has been added to the department within the past year in compliance with instructions from your honorable body. At present the department consists of four steam engines, of which one is in first class order in every respect. The condition of the other three engines has so often been reported by the committee to your honorable body, that I need not mention anything further in regard to them. There are also two hand engines which are not in service, and I would recommend the sale of them.

One hook and ladder truck in first class order, two hose carriages run by double teams, and one hose cart run by one horse, all of which are in good order.

Three old hand hose carts, out of service, and one I have sold to Michigan prison for \$50.

HOSE.

There are 2,400 feet of hose in service which may stand the necessary fire pressure, and 1,500 feet out of service, which are only good for filling cisterns under low pressure.

HORSES.

The number of horses belonging to the department is eleven, all being in good healthy condition, and by a system of constant training are well drilled to the business, and to perform the duties required of them. One horse was sold and two purchased during the past year.

FIRE ALARM TELEGRAPH.

Three new boxes have been added and three miles of line have been put up during the year by the men of the department under my personal superintendence.

The number of boxes now in service is twenty-six.

CISTERNS

There are thirty-three cisterns located in different parts of the city which are all in good condition, and are constantly kept full of water for fire protection.

WORKING OF THE DEPARTMENT.

There have been sixty runs and fires during the year, of which there were forty-five fires and

fifteen false alarms.

The value of property in which the fires occurred amounted to \$83,700. The total loss by fire on the aforesaid property was \$11,325; insurance on same, \$38,925.

CONCLUSION.

It will be noticed that our city has been extremely fortunate in having so small an amount of losses of property destroyed by fire during the past year, owing to the able manner in which I have been served by the members of the department, who have been so prompt in responding to the signal calls. To them all I hereby tender my thanks, and in addition will here state that since the reorganization of the department all the members belonging work in union and harmony with each other, and are found ready and willing to harmonize on all occasions. These things alone are the first steps towards the organization of any department for prompt action and efficiency in saving the loss of property as well as life from that fatal destroyer, fire.

I use every effort to improve and maintain though discipline in the department, so that the community will derive the measure of protection which their outlay of money entitles them to expect. It has ever been my aim to have the Fort Wayne fire department up to the highest standard of efficiency. To the committee on fire department and members of the city council, whose support and confidence have been so generously extended to me whilst I have been obliged to contend with many difficulties and discouragements, I hereby tender my grateful acknowledgments. I also beg leave to tender my sincere thanks to all municipal officers who have so promptly aided and encouraged this branch of public service.

Most respectfully submitted.

Frank B. Vogel, Chief.

Johnnie Schroeder, of the fire department lost his watch in going to the fire last night.

Chief Engineer Vogel to-day discharged John Downey, driver of a hose carriage, for neglect of duty. His action was sustained by the fire committee.

The fire alarm wires are being constantly tampered with by some infernal scamps who will be brought to grief sooner or later. These constant false alarms are a perpetual annoyance to the citizens and an outrage upon the fire department.

SMALL BLAZES.

The fire alarm at 6 last evening was caused by a blaze in the two story frame stable of Chas. Graffe, at No. 27 West Jefferson street, which was extinguished with a loss of not to exceed \$15. The fire was caused by some wicked small boys playing with matches.

The alarm from box 1-6 this morning was caused by a blaze in Arthur Whitehead's chicken coop, at No. 216 Calhoun street. The loss was confined to several millions of chicken lice, which were not insured.

The alarm last night was caused by a small blaze in Johnson's tin shop near the south depot. It was extinguished with purely nominal damage.

There are thirty-three fire cisterns and twenty-six fire alarm boxes in the city.

CAUGHT AT LAST.

TWO BOYS ARRESTED FOR TURNING IN FALSE ALARMS

THEY FALL INTO A TRAP.

For the past three years there has been more or less tampering with the fire alarm boxes. At all times of the day and night the fire department has been called out and made to run long distances, only to find when the location indicated by the bell was reached that the alarm was the work of some scamp and that there was no fire. Various theories have been advanced by the people and some were even ready to believe that Mr. Vogel was directly interested in the business, and were not anyway backward in giving utterances to their opinions. This of course caused Mr. Vogel a great deal of uneasiness, and he has tried very hard to detect the rascals, but until last night, although the guilty parties had long been suspected, nothing positive could be brought forward to convict them or warrant their arrest. Within the past two or three months these false alarms have been very frequent, in fact of almost daily occurrence, and it was plainly seen that something must be done to put a stop to them. On Tuesday last the city papers announced the discharge of John Downey, a hose cart driver, by Chief Vogel for negligence of duty, and the sanctioning of the act by the fire committee. Last night Downey hired a buggy, and meeting Will Delzell proposed a ride. Delzell accepted, and after driving around for about an hour they found Russell Kiser, and he too was invited for a drive. He accepted the invitation and the three started for a ride. They visited several saloons, and in the course of the evening Kiser proposed that they "bring the boys out." The proposition was readily accepted by Downey and Delzell, and box 2-7, located near the Lutheran College, was agreed upon as the place to turn in the alarm. Upon arriving at the box Kiser was assisted by Delzell to mount the alarm box and from this position fastened a wire to the telegraph line and then by touching the other end to the pipe below the box, caused the alarm to be sounded. The number intended to be sounded was 1-2, but they did not succeed in working it right and no particular alarm was turned in. After finishing their job they started for town. Kiser proposed that they turn in another alarm from box 8, at the corner of Wells and Hoffman streets, across the feeder canal. This was agreed to, but Downey proposed first to ride about the city a while and go to the engine house and see if the men went out. Upon arriving at the engine house, Kiser and Delzell were immediately put under arrest. Both furnished \$100 bail for their appearance this morning and were released. Young Kiser failed to appear at police court this morning, and his father, Peter Kiser, who was on his bond, stated to the court that some rascals had advised his son not to appear, and requested the court to continue his case until he could be brought in. The case was continued until Monday morning at 9 o'clock.

Delzell was on hand and announced that he was ready for trial. John Downey was sworn and testified as above stated. Several other witnesses were called and testified on minor details. Delzell admitted being concerned in the offense last evening but swore that he had never been engaged in that business except once, and that was last Tuesday night, when he was with Kiser

and drank a little. Kiser told him he would turn in an alarm, and proceeded to do so by the use of a wire arrangement extending from the upper windows of Kiser's store to the telegraph lines.

The mayor said there was no doubt of Delzell's guilt but the decision would be reserved until next Monday morning. The ordinance provides that a fine may be assessed in any sum not more than \$100.

Chief Vogel has in his possession the apparatus which was used in turning in the alarms. It is a wire arrangement coiled in circular form. This job was well worked, and will probably put an end to these malicious and inexcusable offences for a time. Kiser and Delzell threaten dire vengeance against Downey.

FORT WAYNE DAILY SENTINEL Tuesday 04/29/1879 Page 3, Col. 3.

Will. Delzell, who was fined \$100 and costs for turning in false alarms of fire, will appeal the case.

FORT WAYNE DAILY SENTINEL Thursday 05/01/1879 Page 4, Col. 2.

FIRE.

The alarm at 11 o'clock last evening was caused by a fire at No. 126 Wilt street, in the two-story frame house occupied by Mr. N. Sickner and owned by Jos. Rhouner. The building was damaged about \$200 and the furniture \$100. Mr. Sickner had a light insurance on his household goods, but the house was not insured.

FORT WAYNE DAILY SENTINEL Tuesday 05/06/1879 Page 4, Col. 4.

A frame building is being raised on West Wayne street, between Webster and Harrison streets, in open violation of the fire limits ordinance. Wardens Breen and Chittenden will please take notice.

Tom Mannix is out for chief engineer of the fire department.

The organ factory was damaged about \$100 by fire at 10:30 this morning.

The alarm at 3 this afternoon was caused by a fire in a house about one mile east of the city. It was totally destroyed. The engines stopped at the city limits.

The fire east of town yesterday was in the smoke house of C. J. Winch. Loss small.

Martin Schram has entered upon the discharge of his duties as market master.

The fire committee have addressed a letter to the Silsby Manufacturing Company, with specifications as approved by the council, enclosed. The manufacturers are requested to draft a contract and insert the distance to which water will be thrown, and send said contract back to this council for their acceptance, or refusal.

BLAZES.

AN INCENDIARY FIRE SATURDAY NIGHT AND A BURGLARY – ANOTHER FIRE YESTERDAY.

On last Saturday evening a fire broke out in an open shed on the John Taylor brick yard in White's addition. The building was entirely destroyed, including a lot of brick-making machinery. It was insured for \$600 in the Hamburg-Bremen Company, by J. B. Comstock, but the loss is estimated to be above that sum. The fire was doubtless the work of incendiaries for the purpose of covering the movements of some burglars who, during the progress of the fire, forced an entrance into the dwelling house of Mrs. Meyers, residing about a block west of the brick-yard, and abstracted about \$200 in cash which she had received on the sale of some property quite recently. No arrests.

At 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon, an alarm was turned in, caused by a blaze in the frame building at 307 West Washington street, owned by Wm. Gerke, and occupied by Sim. Bernard. The fire was caused by a defective flue; damage on building \$1,000; fully insured; on furniture, \$200; no insurance. Some difficulty was experienced in getting a supply of water on account of the distance to a cistern.

Fred Pohlmeier of the fire department, will be married one week from tomorrow.

John Downey's case will come up before the fire committee and chief tonight. On account of past faithful services he will probably escape with a reprimand.

The fire committee met last night. No action was taken in the case of John Downey, as no charges was presented.

The fire committee received a letter and contract from the Silsby Manufacturing Company, last evening. The contract specifies that they will warrant the engine to throw a stream of water, 240 feet through a one and one fourth inch nozzle; the cost of repairs, according to specifications, being \$725.

FIRE NEAR MONROEVILLE.

Last night about 6 o'clock the dwelling house of Arthur Howard, about one and a half miles southeast of Monroeville, in Monroe township, was totally destroyed by fire, together with the contents of the same. The total loss is estimated at not less than \$1,000; no insurance.

Mr. Howard is one of the oldest and best known citizens of Monroe township, and the loss will be quite a blow to him. He was absent from home at the time, as was his family, who had gone to a neighbor's house in full sight of their home. The fire is supposed to have originated through a defective flue, as no other cause can be assigned. The house was log building weather-boarded, and was very comfortably arranged. In addition to his household furniture and clothing, the house contained 37 bushels of wheat, a lot of bacon, meat, etc. Not a single article was saved, and Mr. Howard knew nothing of the occurrence until he came home and found his house in ashes.

The sound of the fire bell last evening, was caused by the repairing of the wires.

The stove was taken out of the station house this morning. The stink still remains.

The fire steamers should be repaired right away, as the department is now in an almost helpless condition.

COMMON COUNCIL MEETING.

A bill in favor of the Manchester Locomotive Works of \$4,324.88, for the Zollinger steamer, was referred to a special committee of five consisting of Hettler, Holmes, Lillie, Reese and Bash, to report at the next regular meeting.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

The fire committee, recommended that the proposition of the Silsby Company for the repair of the Anthony Wayne steamer be accepted; also that some action be taken as to the distribution of the fire engines: received and placed on file.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS.

The chief of the fire department reported the appointment of George Strodel as first assistant and John McGowan as second assistant. Concurred in.

The steamer Anthony Wayne was shipped to Seneca Falls to-day.

Lafayette is proud and puts on airs and struts because she thinks she is getting metropolitan. She had a fire engine explosion the other day, but didn't succeed in hurting anybody seriously. The city proposes to replace the engine with a horse syringe to be hung up in the public square, so that when a fire breaks out they can remain right in the square and throw water all over the city. It is to be a 6-oz syringe, as the council thought an 8-oz syringe would squirt clear out of town.

The employes of the fire department suffered a slight change, some for the better, others for the worse, The chairman of the committee on fire department suggested that it would be better to equalize the pay of these men, taking a little slice off from one set, and adding it to others who were understood to be receiving too little for the services rendered. The engineers of the steamers were compelled to surrender \$10 per month of their \$85, a portion of which was added to the two horse hose carriage drivers, making their pay \$55 instead of \$50. The engine drivers are reduced from \$70 to \$65.

Fred. Pohlmeier was married at Emanuel's Church at half-past 10 o'clock this morning. As Fred. And his bride drove by the engine house the boys sounded a general alarm, but he failed to respond. He was too busy. It is expected, however, that he will be on duty to-night.

BIG BLAZE.

ROBERTS & CO.'S FACTORY AT MAPLES BURNED DOWN.

LOSS ABOUT \$6,000; NO INSURANCE.

It has been some time since Maples has been represented in these columns and that little burg, feeling aggrieved about the matter, wakes things up and furnishes an installment to make up for lost time. As an item of direct interest the following is a success: The factory and sawmill of Wm. Roberts & Co., manufacturers of coiled hoop felloes and wagon stock, was completely destroyed by fire this morning. The fire was discovered about 1 o'clock and an alarm given but it was too late for any practical good, as the whole factory building was in flames. The fire is supposed to have originated from a spark from the furnace and may have been smouldering for hours before bursting into flame. Both buildings together with all the machinery, shafting, engine, circular saw, mill, etc., are a complete wreck. Several carloads of stock ready for shipment were also destroyed, the cars not arriving until this morning. The loss, including buildings and stock, is between \$5,000 and \$6,000. There was no insurance.

The dry-kiln of the Indiana Stave Works was set on fire last week by sparks from the stack, but the blaze was extinguished without any damage.

Yesterday about noon an effort was made to burn down the property of Mrs. Didier Duplein, whose troubles have occupied so much space in the papers of late. One hay stack was burned to the ground, and the fire was then extinguished. A man was seen running from that locality toward the woods shortly before the fire and he is supposed to have been the guilty party.

The boys of the fire department have given Fred. Pohlmeier a handsome easy chair for a wedding present.

A tar kettle caught fire in front of the bus barn this morning, and sent out clouds of smoke which indicated a large conflagration.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

The fire committee reported that the Silsby manufacturing company refuse to sign contract for the repair of the Wayne steamer, as 250 pounds hydraulic pressure is too great for the boilers. Received and filed.

RESOLUTIONS.

That the mayor and fire committee contract with the Silsby Company and change the terms of the present contract for rebuilding the Anthony Wayne steamer so as to make the amount of hydraulic pressure to be sustained by the boiler 200 pounds, instead of 250 pounds as it now reads.

The Silsby Company has accepted the modified contract for the repair of the Anthony Wayne steamer, and the "masheen" will be forwarded at once to Seneca Falls.

The alarm from box 5-2, Saturday night, was not the result of a fire. The alarm was tapped to summon the firemen to make arrangements for Capt. Putnam's funeral. This bell should not be sounded for anything but fires, unless previous public announcement is made.

A question of jurisdiction has arisen in the city government, whether the chief engineer of the fire department shall run the mayor, fire committee and common council, or vice versa.

The attention of merchants, manufactures, etc., is called to the notice of the fire committee, published in another column, warning them against the furnishing of supplies for the fire department, except by the proper order. The present ordinances empower the fire committee alone to make requisitions for everything necessary to the running of the department.

The fire department war is increasing in fervency. It got so hot this morning that it bursted the lighter on the Frank Randall engine. It was the first gun and made more noise than a 46-ton Krupp gun. No damage.

There is no trouble between the chief engineer and the fire committee as is generally supposed. The committee have heretofore been giving the chief too much rope, they are now simply hauling in the slack.

Why not call it the war department instead of the fire department?

COUNCIL MANIACS.

THE COURT STREET PEST HOLE TO BE WHITEWASHED.

THE FIRE CHIEF ORDERED TO SEND IN NO MORE FALSE ALARMS.

Mr. Chittenden offered a resolution instructing the chief engineer of the fire department not to send in any more false alarms for any purpose whatever without the consent of the fire committee, and making any violation of this order sufficient cause for his dismissal, and the imposition of the fine as fixed by the ordinance. Carried.

A FIRE FUSS.

A LIVELY BREEZE IN THE "WAR DEPARTMENT."

WHAT CHIEF VOGEL AND THE COMMITTEE SAY.

There is war in the council respecting the various duties and rights of the respective branches of the fire department. The committee state that hereafter all purchases for that department must be made by the fire committee, as provided by the ordinance. The committee say they have been very lenient and complimentary to the chief in allowing him to make his own purchases, etc., but that in consequence of his having acted in open and insulting violation of the expressed order of the council and the wishes of the chairman of the committee, they propose to unitedly and consolidatedly sit down upon him. Chief Vogel, on the other hand, says he is satisfied either way. If the committee want to run the fire department, they can run it; and that if he is to run it, he wants to run it. He says there must be one head to the department, but he don't care a d— n who it is, He says that when he issues an order to any of his men, that order must be obeyed and if he can't have control of the action of his men he don't want to have anything to do with the business at all. And, as far as tolling the fire bell was concerned, he states positively that he was never ordered to have the bell tolled and in fact was not ordered to turn out his men, and came near ordering his men back to the house when the first tap of the bell was sounded, thinking that it was an alarm of fire. He was requested by Councilman Muhler to turn out but was not ordered to do so by any member of the committee. He is glad the matter has occurred as it will decide a question of authority.

The Randall steamer was pumping water out of the city well on the north side yesterday afternoon.

John Schroeder of the fire department handles a thirty-two pound ball to perfection.

There is a good deal of "kicking" among the firemen over the new rules for the government of the fire department.

The Alerts will turn out on the Fourth in full regalia.

The telephone wire coming in contact with the fire alarm wires sent in several false alarms to-day.

The telephone is a source of great annoyance to the fire department.

Frank Vogel is sporting a splendid solid silver badge of his office which he has just received from New York.

Chief Vogel has received an invitation to attend the convention of chief engineers to be held at Washington on the 13th of September.

The Alert hook and ladder company will turn out in force to-morrow in the procession. They will be uniformed and will wear straw hats in place of firemen's caps, each man will sport a bouquet, and altogether they propose to make the best display they ever have made in this city.

FOURTH OF JULY PARADE.

Next was the fire department headed by the City Band, who were followed by the chief engineer and his assistants on horseback. First came the old Alerts, who faithfully marched through the choking dust. There were twenty-five of them. The hook and ladder wagon was immediately in their rear being very handsomely and tastefully decorated.

The Charlie Zollinger fire engine followed the hook and ladder truck and then came the Vigilant Hose Company, eight in number; then the Vigilant hose cart and engine followed by another detachment of eight Vigilants.

The Torrent hose carriage and the Frank Randall engine came next, together with another hose cart.

FIRE THIS AFTERNOON.

This afternoon at about 2:30 an alarm of fire was turned in from box 16. The department responded as promptly as possible and found the building owned by James Woulfe and occupied by Mrs. Elizabeth Nave, at No. 30 Baker street, to be in flames. The throwing of water on the building was considerably delayed by the bursting of a section of hose. The fire had gained some headway, but by hard work it was soon under control, and shortly afterwards entirely extinguished. The roof of the building was burned off and part of the north gable end. The damage by fire and water will not exceed \$150, and is fully insured. The fire is supposed to have originated from a defective flue.

The city has not yet settled for the Charley Zollinger steamer.

There was a small blaze in Fink's coffin shop last evening, which was extinguished with a bucket of water. No alarm was turned in. The fire was the result of spontaneous combustion.

Yesterday, about 10 o'clock, a couple of men, while driving along the road about one mile north of Ossian, discovered a large two-story barn on fire. They gave the alarm, but the fire had gained such headway that the barn and contents were totally destroyed. The barn contained wagons, a buggy, sleigh, and fifteen tons of hay. Loss about \$2,000. The name of the owner was John Houser.

Chief Vogel is very much disgusted with the continued sending in of false alarms, arising from the operations of the telephone artists. The annoyance is very great, both to members of department and to citizens generally.

BAUER'S BLAZE.

A SUNDAY FIRE IN THE WEST END.

Yesterday at about fifteen minutes past 12 o'clock an alarm was turned in from box 3-6, on the corner of Union and Pritchard streets. The department responded promptly, and found a wood shed in the rear of 124 Union street completely enveloped in flames, and before the hose could be laid the cornice of the dwelling house occupied by K. J. Bauer, was also in flames. The woodshed contained a quantity of dry wood and made a very hot blaze. The boys got to work and soon had the fire under control, not, however, before the woodshed, a small frame stable, and several smaller out buildings were destroyed. The total loss will probably not exceed \$300. Mr. Bauer had an insurance of \$1,500 upon the house, but none upon the out-buildings nor his furniture. The furniture was slightly injured by moving, which was done very quickly, as every piece of furniture except a kitchen stove was carried across the street before the engines arrived. The fire, as stated, originated in a woodshed at the rear, and was probably set on fire by some boys who were playing in the shed. The frame stable was owned by John Miller, whose loss is \$100.

The fire department is badly in need of new hose.

WATER WORKS.

THE RIGHT SORT OF TALK FROM SOME HEAVY TAX PAYERS.

To the Editor of the Sentinel:

The property of our firm in Fort Wayne, is appraised for taxation at about \$60,000. It is all located in the block where is kept the entire fire apparatus of the city. It has the protection of two fire cisterns, and the canal is near at hand. For fear that possibly the proposition to erect water works might not carry at the approaching election, we have provided, in the erection of our new building, for the construction of a large tank in the upper story, from which to supply our block with water. So far, therefore, as we are personally concerned, we need water works comparatively little. But we are not blind to the fact that our interests are bound up with those of Fort Wayne. As business men and property holders we cannot afford to run the risk of seeing such establishments as that of Olds & Sons burn down and then go elsewhere to rebuild, where adequate fire protection can be had. We realize the fact that were the Pittsburgh or Wabash shops destroyed by fire, there would be but very little probability of their ever being rebuilt in Fort Wayne. The work of one windy night might easily convert our city, now full of business activity, into a third-rate inland town, with more grass than business in our streets. Therefore, we are not only willing but anxious to take upon ourselves the slight increase of taxation for a few years which will result from the construction of a thorough system of water works. The sooner they are erected the sooner they will be self supporting. Every vote in our establishment will be freely cast in favor of this greatly needed improvement.

Foster Brothers.

THE MUNICIPALITY.

NEW HOSE TO BE PURCHASED FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The special committee on fire engine reported correspondence with Sillisby company, in which they claim the rating of the Charlie Zollinger engine as second class was an error. The committee asked for further time.

RESOLUTIONS.

That the fire committee receive bids for \$2,000 feet of hose.

A fire alarm box has been put up at the corner of Calhoun and Lieth streets.

A party of the fire boys and a few outsiders took a bath last night at the Spy Run aqueduct. Gus Strodel was in the party, but didn't bathe. He was afraid it would raise the water in the basin and cause an overflow.

There was not a false alarm yesterday. The telephone men are neglecting business.

The Anthony Wayne steamer arrived to-day from Seneca Falls, N. Y., via the Wabash. The engine is now the finest looking one in the engine house, and is undoubtedly in the finest possible trim. It has been repaired and almost all the iron and the boiler has been nickle plated. It received a new ash box and an entire new set of flues and a new flue sheet, and was otherwise repaired, making practically a new engine. The cost of the repairs was \$750, the freight each way being \$100, making a total of \$950.

Pat Bulger will drive the Anthony Wayne steamer.

The city has not yet settled for the Zollinger steamer.

The Anthony Wayne steamer in her new dress is a beauty.

A. H. Carier has been secretary of the Alerts nearly a quarter of a century.

The Alert Hook & Ladder Co. will shortly exeurt to Niagara Falls. The committee of arrangements consists of Mayor Zollinger, T. B. Hedekin and A. H. Carier.

The telephone made amends last evening for all neglect of duty before. It sent in an alarm and kept it up for about ten minutes. That's the kind of a telephone to have.

The Anthony Wayne steamer was taken out to the old Stapleford warehouse, this morning and fired up; not as a final test, but merely to see whether she was tight in the joints, etc. The test that far was satisfactory, and she threw a stream of water to a distance of 204 feet with sixty pounds of steam. A final test will be made about Saturday. John Schroeder will run her.

Chief Vogel will attend the approaching national chief engineers' convention at Washington.

The total cost of the Anthony Wayne repairs, including freight, was \$750 instead of \$950, as stated in the Sentinel.

Chief Feeley, of the Delphos fire department, visited our fire department yesterday, and was greatly pleased with its workings.

08/08/1879 Friday Page 4, Col. 2.

This morning about 6:30 an alarm of fire was sounded from box 3-6. The department responded immediately. The fire was discovered to be at No. 51 Wilt street. The house is owned by the Swinney heirs and is occupied by Wm. Deihart. The fire had its origin in a clothes closet, but was discovered before any serious damage was done. The loss is about \$50.

FORT WAYNE DAILY SENTINEL Monday 08/11/1879 Page 4, Col. 3.

The Alert Hook and Ladder Company celebrated their twenty-third anniversary yesterday. They were organized on the 10th of August, 1856, and have remained an institution of the city ever since. L. T. Bourie is the father of the company, and numbers now with his companions some "solidest" men of the city, including Chas. McCulloch, Mayor Zollinger, A. H. Carier, Fred Boltz and many others. Long live the Alerts.

SHE'S A DAISY.

WHICH REFERS TO THE ANTHONY WAYNE STEAMER.

A SATISFACTORY TEST YESTERDAY AFTERNOON.

Yesterday afternoon the official test of the Anthony Wayne steamer was made at the foot of Columbia street. A number of the city officers witnessed the test, and it provided highly satisfactory to all present. The Anthony Wayne has just been repaired by the Silsby Company of Seneca Falls, at a cost of \$750, and is now virtually a new engine and undoubtedly the finest ever brought into the city. Fire was put into the furnace at 2 o'clock. In five minutes steam was made from cold water and in eight minutes water was thrown. In a few minutes more the gauge showed 80 pounds of steam pressure and 170 pounds of water pressure, and, with 500 feet of hose and an 1 1/4 - inch nozzle, water was thrown 198 feet. The pressure was increased to 90 pounds of steam, when water was thrown to a distance of 230 feet. The engine is up to the specifications and will probably be accepted to-night.

The trial of the Anthony Wayne steamer will take place on Monday at 2 p. m. at the east end of Columbia street.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

Petitions

For exemption from taxes by the minute men of the fire department, by John McGown. For increase of salary of the wheelman of the hook and ladder truck, by Gus Strodel.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

The fire committee reported that a heater had been placed on one of the engines without orders, but the same was necessary, and recommended that the bill be concurred in. Also reported that the chief had used the city's wire for private purposes, for which he refuses to pay; that he refuses to put an alarm box on the corner of Calhoun and Leith street as ordered by the council; also that he did not keep the boxes repaired as usual, etc.

Hettler said the best thing to do would be to get a man to repair the lines, and deduct the expense from the chief's salary.

The report was referred back to the fire committee and city attorney, to report at the next meeting.

They also reported in favor of the acceptance of the Anthony Wayne engine and for the purchase of 2,000 feet of hose. The report was concurred in and the engine accepted.

The following resolutions were referred: To draw an order on the treasurer for \$750 in favor of the Silsby Company in payment of the Anthony Wayne repairs.

Proposals

Were received to furnish 2,000 feet of hose for the fire department from the Akron Rubber Company, the New York Belting and Packing Company, and the Guttapercha and Rubber Manufacturer. The proposals were referred to the committee on fire department and the city clerk, to report contract.

This is wash day at the engine house. The boys say they feel better with clean socks on.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The fire department of Fort Wayne, of which the city can justly feel proud, was first organized on the 30th of August, 1839, almost forty years ago and composed then as now some of the best men of the city, comprising Francis Comparet, J. B. Dubois, W. L. Moon, S. S. Morss, J. L. Williams, J. Shenman, John Spencer, M. Hededin, Thos. F. Case, M. W. Hubbell, R. Brackenridge, H. Roberts, John Embrey, R. J. Dawson, H. McCulloch, Edward Stapleford, R. Dykes, Lewis Embrey, Geo. W. Wood, Thos. Johnson, P.G. Jones, Thomas Hamilton, Amos Compston, T. K. Brackenridge, E. V. Doneman, J. W. Denine and Thos. Stapleford.

Chief Vogel and a force of men were engaged until half-past 1 o'clock this morning filling the fire cistern at the intersection of East Jefferson and Lafayette streets, which holds 1,000 barrels. The water was taken from the Pittsburgh works.

ALERTS GRAND EXCURSION

TO NIAGARA FALLS, TORONTO, CAN., AND PUT-IN BAY.

The boss pleasure trip of the season, leaving Fort Wayne via the Wabash Railroad, on Tuesday, August 19th, at 7:40 p. m.

Splendid boat ride on Lake Ontario from the Falls to Toronto, on Thursday, and on returning another boat ride on Lake Erie from near Detroit to Put-in Bay and Toledo.

Round trip to the Falls, \$5.

Round trip to the Falls and Toronto, \$6.

Round trip to the Falls, Toronto and Put-in Bay, \$7.

Sleeping coach attached to the train.

For further particulars apply to

C. A. Zollinger,

T. B. Hedekin,

A. H. Carier,

Committee.

8,14,4

page 4, col. 4: The loss at the fire on Madison street yesterday is estimated at about \$250, upon which there was no insurance. The loss is nearly equally divided between A. S. Johns and Henry Roembke. The fire is supposed to have been caused by the irrepressible small boy and a box of matches. The engines did good work but the Anthony Wayne was delayed considerably from the fact that she was obliged to make steam from cold water. But when she did come she came "awhooping" A section of hose was bursted.

The firemen washed their hose this morning— the fire hose.

All the steamers at the engine house are now in good condition.

The fire department will receive 2000 feet of new hose shortly.

The Anthony Wayne steamer had a heater attached this morning.

BURNED TO DEATH.

TERRIBLE FATE OF AN ALLEN COUNTY WOMAN AT LOCUST GROVE.

NOTHING LEFT BUT A FEW CINDERS AND FRAGMENTS OF CHARRED BONES.

The Sentinel of the 16th inst. Contained the following associated press telegram:

New York, Aug. 16.— Four dead bodies were found this morning in the ruins of the hotel burned last night at Locust Grove. They were those of Joseph Pierce, W. Schuchard, Kate Rafter, a chambermaid, and Louise Cook.

Locust Grove Hotel was burned up between 8 and 9 o'clock on Friday evening the 15th inst., and on the following day the bodies of the above named persons were found in the ruins. Three bodies were BURNED TO A CRISP while that of Catharine Rafter, the old chambermaid, was consumed to cinders, nothing remaining whereby the body could be traced but a portion of the vertebral column and a few small fragments of charred bones. The remains were deposited in a bucket and were thus exhibited at the inquest. The only possible way that the body of Louise Cook could be distinguished from that of Miss. Rafter was by steel corset bands found on the former.

Catharine Rafter was about 60 years old, and had been employed in the hotel a number of years where she was known as "BIG KATE".

The day of the fire was pay day. Kate Rafter, when paid, put the money into the bosom of her dress and had a bank book there covering a considerable deposit in the Bleeker street savings bank in New York.

The unfortunate woman was from Jefferson township, in this county, where her brother and two sisters live. Night before last her remains arrived here on No. 7 Pittsburgh road unattended, but accompanied by a letter of instructions, giving the name of the deceased and requesting that the corpse be taken to Maples, Ind., which was done yesterday.

At 11 o'clock last night, J. S. Tyler's grocery, No. 106 Broadway, caught fire from some unknown cause. The stock was damaged about \$500; insured for \$300. The building was damaged \$600; insured for \$800; owned by Remmel brothers.

All the employes of the fire department are married men, but one and he will —

Yesterday afternoon a house at No. 124 Creighton avenue, caught fire. The blaze was noticed by a street car driver and promptly extinguished. No alarm was turned in and no damage done.

All the employes of the fire department are married men, but one and he will—

The fire committee met last evening to let a contract for new hose for the fire department.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

The committee of fire department reported that an alarm box had been placed on the corner of Leith and Calhoun streets, and ask for further time on other matters referred to them. Concurred in.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS.

The chief engineer of the fire department reported that a national convention of chief engineers would be held in Washington on the 9th of September, and asked an appropriation of \$75 to defray expenses for attending said convention; referred to the fire committee.

CONTRACTS.

The fire committee reported a contract with the New York Gutta Percha and Rubber Company for 2,000 feet of carbolized rubber hose at 9 ½ cents per foot, with a warrentee for 42 months, payable on December 1st. The report of this contract evoked a great deal of discussion on the part of a number of councilmen, McKean stating that the hose bought of this company in 1874 was worthless. Insinuations of bulldozing were freely made, and the mayor was finally obliged to call them to order. The contract was finally amended to provide for the retaining of \$300 as a warrentee, and to pay the same in city orders at par, which contract, as amended, was referred to a special committee consisting of the fire committee and Councilmen Bash and Muhler, to make further investigations as to the quality of the different hose.

The fight at the council last night was on the hose question. Chief Vogel was in favor of Akron hose and the fire committee wanted a New York hose. The council stood a tie, and the mayor decided in favor of the Vogel side.

Mike Conners, of the engine house, took an involuntary bath in the canal last evening.

This morning at about 4:30 the azure vault of heaven was rent by a discord of diabolical screeches from the whistles of at least twenty locomotives, and almost at the same time an alarm was sent in from box 34, to which the department responded with neatness and despatch and found the residence of J. D. Murphy, 25 Taylor street, in flames. The fire was soon subdued. The building was valued at about \$600 and insured for \$500. The loss by fire and water is probably \$75. It is supposed to be the work of an incendiary.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

The council then took a recess of five minutes to prepare resolutions.

The committee on fire department reported rules and regulation, which were read by sections and some changes and alterations made after which they were adopted.

AN UGLY WHISPER.

IS ANY BODY TRYING TO BUY A FORT WAYNE COUNCILMAN?

IF SO, LET HIM BE PROMPTLY EXPOSED.

As the readers of the Sentinel are aware there is a spirited contest in progress in this city over the question of hose. Some time since the council

ADVERTISED FOR BIDS

for furnishing the city with 2,000 feet of hose for the fire department. The following bids were received: New York Belting and Packing Company, R. H. Mead, agent— 90 cents, couplings extra.

New York Gutta Percha and Rubber Company, C. G. Carleton, agent— 2 ½ -inch, 4-ply, with 5-ply ends, fitted with couplings, 94 cents.

B. F. Goodrich & Co., Akron, O.— Anchor hose, test 450 pounds, 96 cents.

The fire committee reported in favor of the bid of the New York Gutta Percha and Rubber Co., and submitted a contract. Strong opposition was awakened in the council, and it was charged by Messrs. McKean and Hettler that this company, in a former transaction, had swindled the city. Chief Vogel was very strongly in favor of the Akron hose, and fought the fire committee on their report. The council being a tie it was finally decided to refer the matter back to a special committee consisting of the fire committee, with Messrs. Bash and Muhler added. The matter is now in the hands of these gentlemen, who will report at the next regular meeting.

In the meantime hard work is being done in the interest of both hose companies, and it has been intimated to the Sentinel that at least one of the agents is endeavoring to carry his point by crooked work. It has been hinted rather loudly, in the presence of a reporter of this paper, by persons who ought to know, that certain councilmen have been advanced in an improper manner in the interests of one of the hose companies. Our reporter attempted to get at the facts by interviews, but the intended victim was very reticent and would say nothing except that "it would all come out." The Sentinel is well satisfied that there is not a single member of the council who could be influenced by a corrupt proposition. But if a councilman has been approached in this matter, it is his duty to make the fact known in open council and expose the whole scheme. Men who imagine that they can buy Fort Wayne councilmen should not only find out their mistake, but also be taught such a lesson that they will not bring any more of their goods to this market.

To-day noon George Swain and Gust Strodel hitched up the hook and ladder team in just sixteen seconds. This is remarkably good time considering the fact that when the bell struck the horses were in their stalls with the doors closed and in just sixteen seconds after the bell struck the horses had run a distance of seventy feet, were hitched up, the driver was in his seat and everything was in readiness to move out.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

The committee on fire department reported the petition of Chief Vogel for an allowance, back to the council; adverse to the petition of Gus A. Strodel for an increase of pay as tillerman, and also that all of the city's telegraph poles had been returned. Received and filed.

The special committee appointed to investigate the carbolized hose reported in favor of the purchase of the hose as recommended by the fire committee; that the bad hose referred to by several members of the council were the Atlas hose and not the carbolized hose at present in question.

Messrs. McKean and Hettler opposed the purchase of the hose. The report was concurred in.

In the matter of the duties of the chief of the fire department, it was the chief's duty to oversee all the doings and workings of the department, also to keep account of all expenses incurred by the working of the department, and respecting the wire reported missing he would recommend that the city proceed to recover according to law.

The committee on fire department reported contract with the Gutts Percha and Rubber Co., of New York for 2,000 feet of carbolihed hose at 94 cents per foot, with a warrantee for 42 months. It was resolved that the mayor and city attorney be instructed to close the contract, as amended at the last council meeting.

A false alarm from box 3-1 brought out the department this morning.

Yesterday morning about 4 o'clock Mayor Zollinger was awakened by a sense of suffocation, and found that the house was filled with smoke. He at once sprang up and discovered that the chimney was burning out and that the heat from the chimney had set fire to the washboard, which had burned for a space of about four feet, and also burned the carpet. A little dilligent exertion, and a plentiful supply of water soon quenched the fire with but a nominal damage

Fred Michaels has been appointed foreman of engine company No. 3 by Chief Vogel. He takes the place of the missing David Eggeman. The appointment is a good one, as Fred is a thorough fireman in every respect.

The residence of Mr. Richey, of Academy Station, Washington township, was destroyed by fire yesterday morning about 6 o'clock. Mr. Richey and family were absent at the time from the house, and it is believed that the fire originated from a defective flue. Mr. R. loses not only his house but all the furniture which it contained. — Gazette.

BROADWAY BLAZE.

FIRE IN THE WEST END LAST NIGHT.

THE FLAMES DO CONSIDERABLE DAMAGE.

At about 2 o'clock this morning an alarm was turned in from box 37 on Broadway. The department responded promptly and found the butcher shop and stable at No. 198 Broadway occupied by Geo. Hoke, and owned by Rosina Eisenger, to be in flames. The fire had gained too much headway when the department arrived to be controlled, and had already communicated to the adjoining property, No. 198, owned by Mrs. Eliza Grubb, so all efforts were made to save the adjoining properties. The fire originated in the stable of 196, but by what means is not known. The flames spread rapidly and a horse in the stable perished. The stable and butcher shop were almost entirely consumed. The total value of the property and contents was about \$1,000. A large amount of the contents were saved, reducing the loss on the buildings to about \$400, on which there was an insurance of \$750.

The loss on No. 198 was principally by water and moving, and will be covered by \$75 on which there was no insurance. The loss on the horse was about \$75.

FIRE AT HUNTINGTON.

(Special telegram to the Sentinel.)

Huntington, Oct. 11.— A fire broke out in the saw mill of John Kenower & Son about 10 last night. The fire in the mill was beyond control when the fire department got to work, and the mill building was burned to the ground. The building was a two-story frame, and was filled with machinery and wagon stock. A stable situated close by was burned, but the horses were saved. The books and accounts are all right. Luckily no wind was blowing of Huntington would have been much smaller this morning. Loss about \$6,000 with no insurance. It is not known how the fire originated, but many think it was a case of incendiarism.

Chief Vogel celebrated his 38th birthday yesterday in royal style at his elegant West Berry street residence. Long may he wave.

A lot of straw in Rimmel's stable on Broadway, was set on fire by some careless boys yesterday. Two or three buckets full of water put it out.

FALSE ALARMS.

THE FIRE ALARM TELEGRAPH WIRES BEING TAMPERED WITH.

Last evening, at about 7:15, an alarm of fire was sent purporting to be from box 31. The alarm was sounded twice, but came in so irregularly that the department did not go out, although they were ready to do so at a regular alarm. After a cessation of a few minutes and just about the time the boys were taking the horses back to the stables, the alarm was sounded again; this time only once. It was then evident that some one was sending in the alarm purposely to turn out or annoy the department.

The police were at once notified of the fact and kept a close watch, but nothing further was heard. The department have been so much annoyed by false alarms during the past few months, mostly, however, from the interference of telephone wires, that they have almost become out of patience, and should any one be caught willfully meddling with the alarm wires, he or they would undoubtedly fare hard.

A NARROW ESCAPE.

What might have been a serious accident was prevented to-day by the presence of mind of John Downey, of the fire department. No. 1 on the Pittsburgh was just pulling out when a woman who had been walking around the platform for some time, attempted to board the train. She caught hold of one of the guards between two cars and tried to board the train. She got one foot on the step, but the motion of the train caused her to swing around, and in another moment she would have fallen between them— the cars on the track— when she would, in all probability, have been run over and maimed, if not killed. Just in the nick of time John, who was standing close by, sprang forward, and catching hold of her gave her a “boost” and at the same time a gentleman on the car caught her hand and drew her safely on the car.

FORT WAYNE DAILY SENTINEL Monday 11/03/1879 Page 3, Col. 2-3.

AN INCIPIENT BLAZE.

Saturday night, as Messrs. Coombs, Morris & Bell were sitting in their office, a flame suddenly burst out almost under their feet, caused by the burning of the floor. Water was at once procured and dashed on the incipient blaze, and it was soon extinguished. It was then discovered that it caught from the grate and may possibly have been burning for an hour before it was discovered, being between the floor. The damage to the floor, carpet and papers from fire and water will probably amount to \$50.

FORT WAYNE DAILY SENTINEL Tuesday 11/04/1879 Page 4, Col. 4.

John Crouse's house in Aboite township was destroyed by fire early yesterday morning. The occupants narrowly escaped with their lives. Loss, \$1,200; no insurance.

Yesterday morning while the Napoleon fire was in progress the chief of the fire department received an appeal for aid, and ordered out the Anthony Wayne steamer. While loading it on the car at the depot a stopcock was broken off, rendering the engine useless. A dispatch soon after stated that the fire was under control, when the engine was returned to the house.

THE CITY BOSSES.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

The chief of the fire department made his semi-annual report, stating that the number of fires was large during the past six months. He reported the department as consisting of four engines, three steamers and one hand engine, all in good repair; eight paid men, sixteen half pay men, and one tillerman. During the past half year there were 36 alarms turned of which there were 24 fires and 12 false alarms besides which there were 75 alarms sent in to which the department did not respond at all they being false alarms occasioned by the telephone wires. Twenty-two cisterns have been filled from the canal and Pittsburgh tank. Two thousand feet of new hose have been purchased, and the department is generally in good shape, but can not give the running expenses as the purchasing power has been assumed by the fire committee. He further reported the sale of two sections of hose to French, Hanna & Co., and of coal to R. D. Wood & Co., upon the order of the fire committee.

Mr. Vordermark wanted to know how the chief could be compelled to keep the running expenses if he refused. The whole report was referred to the committee on fire department.

The Alerts are making big preparations for their ball, and judging from the names on the committee it will be one of the events of the season;

Executive Committee— A. H. Carier, T. B. Hedekin, L. T. Bourie, A. Lordier, Isaac Trauerman.

Reception Committee— Jos. Mommer, R. C. Hanson, W. D. Shiefer, James M. Kane, Chas. McCulloch, Peter Certia,

Floor Managers— L. T. Bourie, F. B. Vogel, John Phillips, Chas. Goodman, C. Enteman.

Managers— C. A. Zollinger, John H. Bass, Mont. Hamilton, A. C. Trentman, C. L. Brackenridge, A. Wolf, Geo. Strodel, C. F. Eme, H. C. McDowell, F. F. Boltz, Isaac Lauferty, C. L. Centlivre.

SUNDAY SCORCHES.

Early Sunday morning a car in the Wabash yard, loaded with lime, consigned to John Lillie, was discovered to be on fire. An alarm was promptly sounded and the fire was soon extinguished. Loss on the car about \$180 and on the lime \$125. It is supposed the fire was the work of an incendiary.

The Fort Wayne Laundry, owned by Mrs. Kate Gable, was slightly singed yesterday morning, but the excellent work of the fire department prevented the total destruction of the building. The loss on the building will not exceed \$150 which is fully covered by insurance. Mrs. Richards in the employ of Mrs. Gable lost a trunk filled with wearing apparel. Her loss is about \$20

In all probability, at the next session of the council, an order will be made furnishing the chairman of the fire committee with a key to the chief engineer's office, so that his committee can have a regular place for their meetings, instead of being compelled to assemble in shoe stores, barber shops and saloons.

The hook and ladder truck is in the shop for repairs.

Owing to excavations on the street in front of the engine house, one of the hose carts has been moved to Reed's stable and another to the bus barn.

The Alert's ball, to-morrow night, promises to be a grand success.

Who is on top, the fire committee or the chief engineer? Is the leading question.

The Alerts will meet to-night to make final arrangements for the ball to morrow night.

page 4, col. 1.

The hose trucks have been returned to the engine house.

The telephone touched off the fire alarm again this morning.

The Alert Hook and Ladder Company's ball at Arion Hall to-night promises to be a grand affair. The various committees appointed to perfect arrangements have performed their work thoroughly, and everything is in readiness. Those of our citizens who attend can rest assured of a rare treat.

ACTIVE ALERTS.

HOW THEY "TRIPPED THE LIGHT FANTASTIC" AT ARION HALL LAST NIGHT.

A LARGE CROWD AND A HAPPY TIME.

The Alert ball given last night at Arion Hall was a success from every point of view. The preparations had been completed and all the arrangements made to that perfection which the names of the committee alone guaranteed.

The ball was given in honor of Gen. Washington's farewell address, and had long been heralded and was looked forward to as to be one of the events of the season, nor was any one disappointed in that particular.

The participants in the affair were among the best of Fort Wayne society.

Of the city officers present were noticed Mayor Zollinger, Clerk Trentman, Councilmen Noll and Muhler, Trustee McCulloch, City Engineer Brackenridge, Chief Engineer Vogel, and Officers Falker and Humbrecht.

The executive committee consisted of A. H. Carrier, T. B. Hedekin, L. T. Bourie, A. Lordier and Isaac Trauerman, and a great deal of credit is due them for the able manner in which the whole affair was conducted. The music was furnished by Reineke's orchestra, whose well known proficiency needs no commendation in these columns. The programme was well selected and varied, and at its conclusion every one felt satisfied there had been an evening well spent.

The boys at the engine house are breaking in the new horse.

COUNCIL— MANIACS.

MEANWHILE SAT DOWN ON CHIEF ENGINEER VOGEL AND THE GAZETTE CO.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

The committee on fire department reported the purchase of a horse for the department for \$190. Concurred in.

The special committee appointed to investigate the official conduct of the chief engineer of the fire department offered the following report:

Your committee to whom was referred the report of the committee on fire department, together with the report of the chief engineer for the purpose of investigating the different complaints contained in said report, respectfully beg leave to report that after giving the parties a fair hearing, and after a careful investigation, your committee find the chief engineer, F. B. Vogel, guilty of violating the ordinance and orders of the committee on fire department.

Your committee, therefore, recommend that the said chief engineer be instructed to at once make and present to the council at their next regular meeting a full report of the doings and running expenses of the fire department; also that he make bills against the parties having bought, or having otherwise, material belonging to the fire department in their possession, and collect the same, pay the same into the city treasury and report the same to this council.

Your committee further recommend that it be made the duty of the committee on fire department to report to this council at their next regular meeting whether the said chief is complying with the ordinances and resolutions of the council and orders of the fire committee, and on his failing to comply we recommend that the council relieve him from being any longer a servant in the fire department.

(Signed) C. Hettler,
 Louis Fox,
 Joshua Holmes,
 Committee.

Councilman Bash said he didn't understand why the committee on fire department had the purchasing power and the engineer be held responsible, and required to keep an account of the expenses.

Councilman Vordermark was called to the chair while Councilman Hettler made a few remarks, saying that as chairman of the special committee he investigated and found that the chief had made charges which he could not substantiate, Further, the common council, as a body, was the highest power in the city, and their appointed officers and committees are always servants of the people through the common council. The chief refused to comply with the orders

of the council, and continued to refuse upon repeated solicitations. The chief must always be subservient to the committee, even though he gives a bond and draws four times the salary of a councilman.

Councilman Hettler resumed the chair.

Councilman Bash thought that there should have been a compromise.

The chair (Hettler) said it must be an unconditional surrender.

Councilman Hamilton said that the chief was required to do nothing more than was required of the city clerk and what other officers were required to do.

The report was unanimously concurred in.

REPORT OF OFFICERS.

The city marshal petitioned for the care of the old horse belonging to the fire department, to be pensioned by the city, which petition was granted.

The chief engineer of the fire department reported on the bill of W. Chandler & Co., for fire apparatus, that the apparatus was necessary and should be allowed. Referred to the committee on fire department.

FORT WAYNE DAILY SENTINEL Thursday 12/11/1879 Page 4, Col. 3.

THREE TIMES

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT WAS CALLED OUT TO-DAY.

MUCH SMOKE BUT VERY LITTLE FIRE.

Two alarms of fire were sent in this morning in quick succession, both of which brought out the department and both were alike indestructive.

The first was from box 25, on the corner of Lewis and Hanna streets, and was occasioned by the burning out of a chimney on the corner of Lewis and Francis streets. The engines went to the place, and finding that their services were not needed, were returned to the engine house.

A short time afterward another alarm was turned in from box 15, located on the corner of Jefferson and Calhoun streets, and was caused by the burning out of a chimney at the saloon occupied by Christian Gross. Some bed clothing in the upper part of the house caught fire from the chimney and were damaged, but the fire was put out before the department arrived and they again returned to the engine house without throwing any water.

The telephone, its turn then having come, sent in a third alarm, which caused the boys to hitch up, but they did not turn out.

Frank Vogel resign?— nixey:

The new horse in the fire department is a beauty.

Page 4, Col. 2.

This morning at about 7:30 an alarm was turned in from box 1-6, at the corner of Calhoun and Chicago streets. The fire was found to be in the Darrow House, where some bedding had caught fire. The department turned out promptly and in a short time were ready to throw water. The fire, however, was extinguished without the aid of the department. The loss is nominal.

FORT WAYNE DAILY SENTINEL Friday 12/12/1879 Page 4, Col. 2.

The fire alarm was on a rampage to-day noon.

All the lawyers turned out to the fires yesterday.

BUSTED BILER.

TERRIFIC EXPLOSION THIRTEEN MILES NORTH OF THE CITY.

FIVE MEN INSTANTLY KILLED FRIGHTFUL SCENES.

The boiler in the saw mill of Louis Trumbull, at Collins, about thirteen miles north of this city, in Whitley county, exploded about noon yesterday, killing Louis Trumbull, the owner, his two sons, Robert and Wesley, his nephew, Lorenzo Trumbull, and a young man named Elsey Glenn, an employe of the mill. The mill was completely destroyed and portions of the boiler were blown a distance of forty rods from the scene of the explosion. The bodies of the killed were terribly mangled, portions of Glenn's body being found over one hundred feet from the mill, and some of the bodies could only be recognized by portions of the clothing. The supposed cause of the accident was low water in the boiler.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

(Correspondence of the Sentinel)

Coesse, Dec. 17— Yesterday about 10 minutes past one, the boiler at the saw-mill of Mr. Turnbull at Collins station exploded, instantly killing Mr. Turnbull, his two sons, nephew and a man named E. Glenn and entirely demolishing the mill. Wm. Mossman, of Coesse, had only just left the mill, and pieces of the debris were thrown as far as he was— some fifteen rods or more. The unfortunate men were torn and terribly mutilated, some portions of their bodies had not been recovered up to late last evening. It broke the glass in several houses in the town.

DEATH AND DESTRUCTION

DETAILS OF THE TERRIBLE BOILER EXPLOSION AT COLLINS.

FIVE PERSONS LITERALLY BLOWN INTO FRAGMENTS.

SCENES OF DISTRESS WHICH BAFFLE DESCRIPTION.

(Columbia city post)

Collins is a small way station on the line of the Eel River Railroad, five miles east of Columbia City. Situated some forty rods due north of Collins, Louis Turnbull had erected a saw mill. The mill was operated by him and his two sons, assisted by his nephew, also named Turnbull, and a young man by the name of Elsie Glenn. This force of operators were engaged yesterday, (Tuesday) forenoon in sawing lumber. About noon, or a little after, the citizens of Collins were startled by a most terrific explosion, and looking in the direction the sound came, they saw a vast cloud of smoke and dust hovering over the site of the Turnbull mill. On reaching the scene of the disaster, a spectacle of havoc and death met the gaze of the beholders, terrible enough in its stern reality to melt the stoniest heart. There, laying amid debris and ruins, some fifty feet north of where the mill stood, was Lewis Turnbull, cold in death. Near fifty feet northwest of the mill, lay his oldest son also dead. Due west 250 feet, lay a portion of the body of the youngest son, the balance having been literally blown and cut to pieces. The body of young Turnbull, the nephew, was only about 40 feet west of the mill, also horribly mangled. Glenn was hurled west about 160 feet, his head striking against a hickory tree, scattering his brains in all directions. A leg was found here and an arm there. Every employe in the mill, with the employer, lay dead in its ruins.

Coroner Yontz was immediately notified and at once proceeded to the scene of death. After his arrival the bodies were picked up, one by one, and the remnants of the broken limbs gathered together and placed in the barn to await burial.

The devastation made by the explosion cannot be described. Where the mill stood, there scarcely remains a vestige of even its foundation. The sills of the mill are thrown out of their places and broken. The boiler is scattered far and wide, pieces being found forty rods distant. The engine is shattered into hundreds of pieces. The saw is no where to be found. The brick foundation enclosing, and upon which rested the boiler, is gone. The explosion is supposed to have been caused by low water in the boiler.

A burning chimney at No. 241 East Washington street, in the house occupied by Mrs. E. Dinkley, called out the fire department. The fire was extinguished without damage.

COUNCIL MEETING.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

The fire committee reported that they wished longer time to report on the advisability of purchasing the Chandler galvanometer; and further reported that Chief Vogel paid no attention to the report of the special committee made at the last meeting, and said he still continued to refuse to recognize the report in any way and has declared that he will test the matter in court.

Councilman Hettler said that the thing had now come to a point, and he now wanted the chief to walk straight or step down, and he moved that the matter be referred to a special committee to report whether or not the chief was subordinate, and if so then there would be but one course to pursue, that being that the chief must give way to a better man. The motion prevailed and Messrs. Hettler, Wilkinson and Holmes were appointed.

A fire occurred at 4:20 this afternoon, at George Strodel's, on Main street, but was extinguished with a few buckets of water.

The fire at Geo. Strodel's yesterday afternoon was a very slight one, and the damage can be covered with \$50. It originated in the Saengerbund Hall, and was communicated by a defective flue. A hole was burned through the floor, and in putting it out the floor had to be cut and the plastering knocked from the ceiling below. The room below was pretty well drenched with water, but further than that no damage was done.

Chief Vogel will hereafter open wide the portal when the fire committee arrives.

A trifling blaze in Commerrow Bros.' saloon, caused by a spark from the stove, on yesterday morning, did \$25 worth of damage.

An incendiary fire, at about 1:30 yesterday morning, loomed up in F. X. Goodman's barn, no. 283 East Washington st. Before very much damage was done our excellent fire department had subdued the flames. Simultaneously with the above a fire was noticed in a barn belonging to George Lauer's estate, No. 277 West Washington street. This barn was damaged some \$300, and the one adjoining belonging to J. B. Neimann, about \$60 worth. All insured.

MORE INCENDIARISM.

LAFAYETTE HALL THE SUBJECT THIS TIME.

At 2:20 o'clock this morning the fire bells pealed forth their warning notes to tell the world that Lafayette hall had been touched by the incendiaries' torch. The firemen, with their usual alacrity, were promptly at the scene of the conflagration, and in thirty minutes had the blaze quenched. The fire originated in a vacant room on the second floor, and was undoubtedly the work of an incendiary, as a large oil can, half filled with kerosene, was found in the room, and the floor and walls were saturated with it. Whoever did the business took the precaution to lock the door after them. The fire had reached the third floor before it was entirely quenched, damaging the building to the tune of from \$500 to \$600. When the door leading into the room in which the fire originated was burst open, the smoke almost suffocated those in close proximity to it. The building is the property of A. T. Johnson, of Pierceton, Indiana. The oil can found in the room is at police headquarters.

PAPER UNKNOWN

01/01/1880

* Wilson (George H.) and Muhler (Charles F.) Hardware Store, 87 W. Columbia street was destroyed by fire. The three upper floors were completely gutted. The building owned by the Ewing Estate.

PAPER UNKNOWN

01/03/1880

* Charles Bulger, age 11, son of Patrick J. Bulger 61 Clinton, driver fire department.

The residence of A. Schonsenburg, 37 Barr street, was discovered to be on fire on Saturday morning. The flames were extinguished without the aid of the department.

COMMON COUNCIL.

The committee appointed to look into the differences existing between Chief Vogel and the council reported that Mr. Vogel had consented to live up to the requirements of the council, and that their differences had therefore been amicably adjusted.

The committee on fire department and chief engineer were instructed to make out a list of those persons exempt from taxation on account of being firemen and report to the next meeting of the council.

A chimney in the residence of Wm. Emes, on Montgomery street, took fire early yesterday morning, creating quite a scare among the female members of the family. The floor of the chamber, where the chimney passed through, caught fire from the heat. No alarm was given.

On Tuesday night next a private hop will be given by the minute men of the fire department, at Mrs. E. Dunfee's, corner Pearl street and Maiden lane. The Fort Wayne firemen are always prompt at the sound of the fire alarm, but upon this occasion they will answer the call of other belles.

BAD FOR ORFF.

THE FIRE FIEND VISITED HIM LAST EVENING.

At 8:30 o'clock last evening, fire was discovered in the second-story of the building occupied by Orff & Co., dealers in dry goods, millinery and notions. No. 5, Columbia street. The alarm was instantly given from Mayer & Graffe's. In less time, almost, than it takes to write it the sprightly fire laddies were at the scene of the conflagration, and in ten minutes had the fire completely extinguished. Up stairs, where the fire caught, is the office of the Dispatch newspaper. Near the table, upon which much of the writing is done, are two gas jets. One end of a rubber pipe was attached to one of those jets, and the other end to a portable burner sitting upon the table. At a quarter to eight the young man who sleeps in the store, left the building, and this light burning very dimly. At that table was where the fire originated, but whether from the burning gas or not can not be determined. Much of the papers belonging to the Dispatch were burned, and many pieces of velvets, and hats, flowers, ribbons, laces, feathers, rusches, etc., belonging to Orff & Co., were totally destroyed. The principal loss was from water, however, the full extent of which, of course, can not be definitely stated. Below most of the goods were upon shelves, and those stacked upon the counters were removed to the shelves, before they were much damaged by the water which soon began pouring through the ceiling.

The building belongs to Bissel & Co., of Hartford, Conn., and is insured for \$3,000. The damage to the building will be from \$100 to \$200. The damage to the stock will be from \$2,500 to \$3,000, which is fully covered by insurance. The entire stock in the building is worth about \$28,000, so that there was a chance for a first-class fire.

When the alarm was given Mr. Orff and family were attending the sociable at Mr. McCulloch's. So soon as Mr. Orff was told that his store was on fire he rushed for the place, and arrived there in a very excited condition. A policeman was guarding the door, but before he had time to ascertain who sought admission Mr. Orff placed his hand against the glass in the door and broke it, a fragment of which cut his wrist quite seriously. The stock will be placed in shape in a few days, so that the business of the house will not be suspended.

The damage to Orff & Co's. store, by fire and water, will not foot up quite \$2,500. The store was closed all day yesterday, awaiting the action of the insurance companies.

A burning chimney at the Tremont House caused considerable excitement in that part of the city, on yesterday afternoon. For a time the smoke rolled up as from the smoke stack of a Mississippi steamboat, and the way people did scamper about for a few moments was a caution. The department was not called out.

THE FIRE AT ORFF'S — A CORRECTION.

To the editor of the Gazette.

There is no truth whatever in the statement of the daily press that the fire of Thursday night originated in the part of the building used as the office of the Dispatch. The fire broke out near the head of the stairs, close by the desk used by Frank Orff for filing correspondence and papers for Orff & Co. The sanctum of the Dispatch is at the north end of the room, and no documents, books or other adjuncts of the paper were injured in the least.

James Mitchell.

At 7:15 last evening an alarm of fire was sent in from box 16, corner Chicago and Calhoun streets, caused by the explosion of a lamp in Hartnett's saloon, No. 12 Chicago street. The fire was extinguished before the department arrived on the scene. Damage slight.

THE MINUTE MEN.

The minute men of the fire department assembled at the residence of Mrs. E. Dunfee, on Maiden lane, last evening, to enjoy themselves as only the "fire laddies" know how. Their lady friends, as a natural consequence, accompanied them, among them being Misses Alice McCafferty, Lizzie Weekman, Addie Gassett, Lizzie McKee, Lizzie Ringwald, Maggie Lahey, Emily Smithers, Laura Broach, E. and Ida McNeil, Carrie and Emma Snyder, Lily McMullen, Mary Bender, Lida Ayres, and a score of others. Dancing was kept up until a late hour. Had a vote been taken, all present would have voted in the affirmative on tendering a vote of thanks for the courteous treatment they received at the hands of the hostess, and would have further expressed the wish that the time is not far distant when another such occasion may be enjoyed.

THE CITY COUNCIL.

The committee on fire department reported that they had prepared a list of persons exempt from taxation, on account of being firemen; in favor of a fire alarm box corner of Main and Van Buren streets; in favor of the purchase of a galvanometre bell magnet, switch board, testing board and a street box testing apparatus, and that the Francis street dock had been repaired. Received and placed on file.

RESOLUTIONS.

That the chief of fire department erect a fire alarm box at the corner of Main and Van Buren streets.

That the bill of W. Chandler, for galvanometre, etc., amounting to \$250, be allowed.

A flag suspended above one of the windows, on the east side of Arion hall, took fire, last night, but it was extinguished before materially damaged or alarm created.

A slight blaze broke out in James' shoe shop on Barr street, yesterday morning, which was promptly extinguished by the application of a few buckets of water. Damage slight.

A fire at the residence of Conrad Norwald, 61 Williams street, on yesterday morning, did about \$25 worth of damage. The fire was extinguished before the fire department arrived at the place.

An incipient blaze was discovered, about 1 o'clock this morning, by Policeman Ryan, at the corner of Washington and Harrison streets, on the premises of Charles Koch, caused by emptying hot ashes. The officer, with the aid of a few buckets of water, extinguished the fire without sending in an alarm.

Yesterday morning, between eight and nine o'clock, a fire was discovered at the base of the dome of the court house. The incipient conflagration was arrested by means of a pail of water in the hands of Mr. Pohlmeier.

A burning chimney in the residence of H. R. Schwegman, corner of Jefferson and Clinton streets, yesterday forenoon, called out the fire department. A portion of the ceiling around the chimney was torn away, but no further damage was done. Loss, about \$10.

A fire broke out at 8 o'clock on Saturday evening in the stable of Miss Mary Green, corner of Ewing and Berry streets. It was occupied by E. W. Prescott for storing sea grass. Loss on building and contents about \$1,000. Mr. P. Hoagland's barn, adjoining, was damaged to the extent of \$100. The fire is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary.

A small fire at the residence of Mrs. Young on Brandriff street burned a hole in the roof, but was extinguished before further damage was done. Our fire department is a squelcher on fires.

There was a lively rush of fire engines, hose carts, etc., to the corner of Harrison and Pearl streets last night at about 8:30 o'clock. The cause was an incipient fire in a small building belonging to Robert Klahn, and situated half a block back from Calhoun street. The damage will be about \$25. The place was set on fire.

A Kendallville dispatch of last evening says: "Last night the extensive planing mill of L. A. Reed took fire, and, but for the well-timed efforts of the fire department and of Mr. Reed and his employes, would have burned to the ground. Considerable lumber and coal was around the shops, besides very valuable machinery."

HOT NEIGHBORS.

THAT IS THE CONDITION OF THE "GAZETTE'S FRIENDS.

THE FIRE FIEND CALLS UPON THEM, AND DESTROYS \$25,000 WORTH
OF PROPERTY.

THE FIRE LADDIES DO THEMSELVES PROUD,
THOUGH AT THE PERIL OF THEIR LIVES.

At about eight o'clock last evening the fire bell ding-donged its warning, and in an instant, the fire department rushed from their quarters to the scene of the conflagration, No. 19 West Main street, three doors east of the Gazette office. The fire was discovered to be in the third story of the building, occupied by H. J. Trentman & Bros. as a packing room. At first it was thought that the flames could be easily extinguished, but, despite the strenuous efforts of the firemen, it rapidly spread, and soon secured a footing between the upper ceiling and the Mansard roof. From below it was impossible to reach the flames, and from above the almost melting roof precluded the possibility of the firemen rendering any further service than to merely throw water upon it. Soon, however, a hook was raised to the roof by means of a rope, when an opening was quickly made, but the surging flames seemed to defy the action of the water and only raged more furiously than before. From below the energetic firemen worked with might and main, braving the clouds of smoke and steam that ever anon hovered in impenetrable clouds about them, yet their action seemed as but a toy in the hands of the monster they were fighting. Onward sped the dire destroyer, and not until the structure in which it found its birth was laid in utter waste did it succumb to the influence of the streams poured upon it by the groaning engines and the active fire laddies. At 10:30 the flames had communicated to the adjoining building occupied by Noll Bro's, wholesale milliners, and in a brief period had gutted the upper story so effectually that an entire reconstruction will be necessary.

The building in which the fire originated, is occupied by H. J. Trentman & Bros., wholesale dealers in china, crockery and glassware, the damage to which, considering the loss on stock, etc., will not fall short of \$15,000. The damage to the building and stock, occupied by Noll Bros., will be between \$5,000 and \$10,000. Of course these figures are but estimates and may vary largely when the true loss is ascertained.

The block, consisting of three stores, is owned by the Kane Bros., who have an insurance

probably sufficient to repair the damages.

FIRE NOTES.

The Gazette got its thinking cap on about the time the fire was the warmest last night. The proprietor, editors and devils had about made up their minds to change quarters.

A fire was discovered in the third story of the Gazette building at about 10:30 o'clock. Whether it originated in an accidental or a willful manner is a debatable question.

How the fire originated in Mr. Trentman's store is a mystery. No fire had been in that part of the building, and whether it was spontaneous combustion or carelessness or otherwise is not fully decided as we go to press.

Trentman's will probably be closed for several days. It will take sometime to place their goods to rights and repair the building.

Many suppose that crockery cannot be damaged by water. This is a mistake. The stains from the charcoal colored water will completely destroy china and crockery ware.

Noll Bros.' stock was terribly damaged by water. They will find considerable trouble in assorting the damaged goods from those not damaged, and it is not likely will be able to resume business for several days.

Hanna, Wiler & Co., wholesale dealers in notions, etc., were considerably "broke up" last night. The only loss they will sustain, however, will be in the trivial inconvenience they are put to.

A young man named A. M. Jones, a base ballist, is a good shot. He threw stones through the fourth story windows, over Noll Bros.'s store, last night, when the stream from the hose failed to break them.

Some of the windows were broken by shots from a pistol last night. A good idea.

Asa Lewis, Solomon Berger and Fred Michaels, firemen, were up stairs over Trentman's store last night, when the roof fell in. Each of them was quite severely injured by being cut about the head and bruised on the back and shoulders. Lewis was the only one injured so severely that he could not return to duty. He was carried to his home and is unable to be out.

The firemen worked like heroes, and deserve great credit for subduing the flames as early as they did.

About 4,000 people took in the fire.

Several gentlemen from Logansport purchased a pitcher of beer and jocosely whiled the "flickering" hours away.

An old lady taking in the sights was nearly drowned by the accidental turning of the stream from the hose upon her.

Effectual work was done by the firemen ascending the roof of a building on the opposite side of the street, and throwing water from there upon the roof of the burning building.

LATER.

Noll Bros. have an insurance of \$3,000. They carry a stock valued at from \$25,000 to \$80,000. The insurance will probably not cover their loss.

Hanna, Wiler & Co., wholesale dealers in notions and furnishing goods, removed much of their stock to the Home Billiard rooms. The only loss they will sustain is the damage to the goods by removal, and the trouble in doing so. They carry a stock valued at from \$75,000 to \$100,000. Their loss will be covered by insurance.

H. J. Trentman & Bro. carry a stock valued at from \$40,000 to \$45,000. The greatest damage is by water.

Darrow & Warner, who own a printing office located in the Gazette building, in their fright, removed a quantity of their material across the street to a place of safety.

The work of repairing the damaged buildings will be begun immediately.

The police officers were vigilant last night.

The firemen had not left "the scene of the disaster" at 2 o'clock this morning.

ANOTHER FIRE.

THIS TIME IT IS WORTH BUT A COOL THOUSAND.

At 12:50 this morning an alarm of fire was sounded, and, quick as lightning, the fire department responded to the call. The fire was found to be in the woodsheds and coal houses of Mayor Zollinger, E. F. Carry, and O. P. Morgan, situated on the alley between Washington and Jefferson, Clinton and Barr streets. The sheds, three in number, were almost totally destroyed, besides outhouses, stables, etc. The fire was well under way before discovered, it evidently, being the work of an incendiary, who, to make his work sure, kindled it in each of the places destroyed. All the buildings are the property of O. P. Morgan, who will lose about \$1,000 by their destruction. Whether insured or not the reporter could not learn, but those who occupied them were of the opinion that they were not. The loss to the individuals who occupied the buildings will be but trifling. Mayor Zollinger had a few cords of wood destroyed, which is his only loss. Mr. Carry had about twenty cords of wood burned, and O. P. Morgan suffered a loss, aside from the buildings, about the same as Mr. Carry. The flames were entirely extinguished at 8 o'clock this morning.

A SMALL FIRE.

A fire broke out in the drying room of Peters' Box and Lumber company, at 1:30 yesterday afternoon. The fire department responded to the alarm with their usual alacrity, reaching the place and extinguishing the flames before any very serious damage was done. The mansard roof of the building was torn up in several places, to give the firemen an opportunity to reach the fire, and in this consisted the greatest damage. The place was filled with light box timber, pail and tub bottoms, etc. The stock had been in the drying room four days, and in another twenty-four hours would have been removed. It is but little damaged.

The building has an insurance in the Springfield Fire and Marine of \$1,000; Niagra, \$1,000; Phoenix, \$1,500; Howard, \$1,000; North American, \$2,000; and the Liverpool, London and Globe, \$2,000.

Aside from the delay in adjusting the loss, the company will lose nothing.

The Kerr Murray fire engine is out of sorts. It was being taken out to fill cisterns, yesterday afternoon, when a portion of the gearing gave way. It will be taken to the shops for repairs.

A small dwelling on Third street, occupied by John Murphy, one of the employes in the telephone office, took fire yesterday afternoon and was slightly damaged. The building was owned by Peter Veith, who will have to expend about \$75 upon it before it is again habitable. The fire caught from the chimney.

The firemen are not angry, nor are they on their nerve, but they would kindly suggest to the street drivers that if they would just "whoa" while the fire engines and hose carts are passing, it might be the means of avoiding an accident sometime.

Chief Vogel is a tiger on selling hand engines.

CITY COUNCIL.

PETITIONS.

For a fire alarm box at the corner of Dewald and Minor streets. Referred.

From Gustave A. Strodel, a fireman for an increase of pay. Referred.

The resignation of C. F. Pohlmeier, as driver of the fire department supply cart, was presented and accepted.

From the minute men of the fire department, for an increase of pay. Referred to the committee on fire department.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS.

The chief engineer of the fire department reported that he had sold one of the fire department horses for \$120, and purchased another for \$185, and had sold a hand engine, horse cart and five hundred feet of hose, not fit for steamer service, to the city of Antwerp, for \$800, to be paid for in one, two and three years, at 6 per cent interest from date.

A burning chimney on West Main street called out the fire department yesterday. No damage.

CITY COUNCIL.

The candidates for chief of fire department were Frank Vogel, Fred Boltz, Dr. Brooks and Clark Slocum. The first ballot resulted in the selection of Vogel, he receiving ten votes, Boltz four, Slocum three, and Brooks one.

CHILD BURNED TO DEATH.

HORRIBLE WORK OF YOUTHFUL INCENDIARIES.

Yesterday afternoon, about 2 o'clock, a small barn located at the corner of Archer street and Franklin avenue, belonging to a Mr. Zimmerlein, was totally destroyed by fire, and with it a little three year old daughter of Mr. Christ. Mehler, who occupies the premises as a tenant. The locality where the fire occurred is about two miles from the engine house, in a north northeasterly direction, and as soon as it was discovered an alarm was sent in from box No. 8, which is a mile distant from where it occurred. The department responded promptly, but on arriving at box No. 8 they were told that nothing but a lot of brush had been destroyed, so they retraced their steps. The painful facts of the case were soon received, however, when Chief Vogel, accompanied by several of the firemen, visited the scene.

They found that the barn, which was a small frame structure, had been set on fire by a couple of young vagabonds named James Miles and Charley Cemesky, but for what reason, or on what provocation is not known. At the time of the fire little Leity Elizabeth Mehler aged three years, and her brother aged eight years, were in the building playing. The boy succeeded in escaping with a severe scorching, but his unfortunate little sister was unable to get out in time, and her remains were found among the ruins, burned to a crisp. The family residence is located only about sixty feet from the barn. The father of the children was away working, and the mother was at home, but in her great grief and excitement was unable to give any explanation of the sad affair.

An adjoining barn, belonging to S. F. Buth, was also destroyed, the entire financial loss being in the neighborhood of five hundred dollars.

The names of the young miscreants who were guilty of this hideous crime are known, and the officers are after them, but up to the time of going to press they had not been captured.

CITY COUNCIL.

Report of committee on fire, allowing Messrs. Fred Michaels and Asa Lewis, the two men injured at fire, twenty dollars apiece was concurred in.

Fire department estimate for ensuing year \$15,000.

A communication from chief engineer of fire department was read. Geo. Strodel has been appointed first and John Gowan second assistant engineer. Report concurred in. Balance of report calling attention to inefficiency of the department was referred to committee on fire department. Annual report of chief engineer was referred to fire committee without reading.

A resolution to locate a fire alarm box at the corner of Spring street and St. Mary's avenue, was referred to committee on fire department.

PRESENTATION TO A WORTHY FIREMAN.

The Alert Hook and Ladder company, No. 1, had a special social meeting last evening, at which Mr. George Swain, a driver of one of the wagons, was presented with a new suit of clothes, consisting of silver cloth and blue buttons. The presentation speech, which was very eloquent and appropriate for the occasion, was delivered by Mr. Charles McCulloch, and was responded to by the happy recipient in excellent style. The presenters, some fifty in number, adjourned after the presentation ceremonies to Entemann's, where a banquet was indulged in and a number of eloquent speeches promulgated. Among the strangers present were Dr. McDowell, chief of the fire department at Arcola, and A. J. Stewart, of Bluffton. Dennis O'Brien performed the wonderful war dance act to the great edification of the guests. The entire gang of banqueters were engaged for several hours in hunting up Tom Hedekin, but the search was fruitless. Altogether the affair was a very pleasant one and will long be remembered, especially by the happy recipient of the new garments.

FIRE.

A FIVE HUNDRED DOLLAR BLAZE AT THE LUMBER YARD OF
COOMBS & CO. YESTERDAY MORNING.

About 10 o'clock, yesterday morning, a fire was discovered in the lumber yard, or the house used for storing lumber and manufactured wood work by Coombs & Co., located in the southern part of the city, near the Pittsburg railroad. The fire department responded promptly, but the fire was in a portion of the building which it was impossible to get at promptly, and for a long time they were compelled to fight the enemy blindly. The firemen also experienced the difficulty of having no water convenient so that it was found necessary to make connection with the Pittsburg shops and Bass' foundry, which consumed considerable time. The department, however, soon made the necessary arrangements to fight the destroying element, and in a short time, though the fire had gained considerable headway, they had it under control. There was no insurance on the stock. The loss is estimated at almost five hundred dollars, but it may turn out to be more than that sum. The origin of the fire is unknown.

BIG BLAZE ON MAIN STREET.

LOSS ABOUT TWO THOUSAND DOLLARS. NARROW ESCAPE OF A WOMAN
AND THREE CHILDREN.

A fire broke out about 10 o'clock last night in a couple of frame buildings, Nos. 30 and 32 West Main street, opposite the Gazette office. The fire originated in a kind of hall, or covered alley-way between the two buildings, and in ten minutes after the first cry of fire was heard, both of the frame structures, with their inflammable material, were wrapped in flames. The house No. 30 is owned by Mr. Bushman, and was occupied by Marcus Gohram, who kept a repair shop and carpet weaving establishment. The other building was occupied by Mrs. Louisa Marriott, who kept a second-hand store, and at the time had a large amount of goods on hand.

Narrow Escape.

The fire broke out very suddenly and spread rapidly, and in the excitement of the few people in the neighborhood, no one except Fred Briel had the presence of mind to remember that the upper portion of the house was occupied Mrs. Marriott and her three children, who had retired for the night. Through his efforts the woman and her three children were rescued, being brought down stairs into the street in their night clothes, just in time to save their lives. Mrs. Marriott is said to have had one hundred dollars in money which was burned up with the balance of the property. The fire is supposed to have broken out in the carpet weaving establishment in the rear of the building, but the exact cause of its origin seems to be unknown. The loss on buildings and goods will probably amount to about two thousand dollars.

Mr. E. J. Heiny was the first one to discover the fire and give the alarm. The department responded promptly, and the flames were under control inside of a half hour. The buildings and stock were only partially insured.

Mrs. Mariott, whose premises were burned night before last, on Main street, had \$210 tucked away in a little tin box, which she was compelled to leave behind her in her hasty exit from the house. The money was found soon after the fire was extinguished, by Chief Smith and Geo. Strodel, and returned to the unfortunate woman. The boys deserve credit for their thoughtful attention to this matter.

An alarm of fire from box 53, in the vicinity of Hoffman's factory, on West Main street, yesterday afternoon, about 3 o'clock, brought out the department, but on their arrival at the place they were unable to discover any fire.

PAPER UNKNOWN

07/07/1880

* Fire destroyed the shed and its contents consisting of old and dry hickory, oak, poplar and ash lumber which was used by Jacob A. Spereisen, for the manufacturing of wagons at his shop located 70 Taylor street near the Wabash Shops. Total loss of \$2,000.

FORT WAYNE DAILY GAZETTE

Thursday

07/22/1880

Page 4, Col. 4.

BURNT BARN.

TWO FRAME BARNs FEED THE FIRE FIEND.

The alarm of fire was turned in this morning about 12:30 o'clock, and the firemen didn't stop to put on their collars but hustled out with their usual celerity. The fire originated in a frame barn in the rear of No. 151 West Wayne street, belonging to Mrs. John Hamilton. The structure was completely enveloped in flames when a Gazette reporter arrived on the scene, and the fire had extended to another frame barn directly in the rear of No. 152 West Washington street, belonging to Mr. Becker. Both barns with their contents were totally destroyed. Mrs. Hamilton estimates her loss at \$500. The barn contained two or three stoves, some carpets and fuel. Becker's barn also held some carpets and stove wood, and he thinks that \$250 is a fair estimate of his loss. Both Mr. Becker and Mrs. Hamilton had insurance.

There was lively hustling in the alleyway by parties owning live stock contained in the adjoining barns. Murray ran out a valuable horse and three buggies from his brick barn, which was slightly scorched.

Tom Meegan and a Gazette reporter boarded a bounding hose cart, and were among the first to arrive at Mrs. Hamilton's premises, where they found the ladies of the household wringing their hands, and in a state bordering upon hysterics. Meegan at once divested himself of his coat, and climbing upon the roof of the house, deluged it with pails of water, unquestionably saving the residence from ignition.

Mrs. Hamilton is firmly convinced that the conflagration is the work of an incendiary, as nothing of a combustible matter was stored in the barn.

AGAIN THE FLAMES.

BREAK OUT IN THE PETERS BOX AND LUMBER FACTORY.

Yesterday afternoon, about 4:30 o'clock, the ever ready firemen were summoned to the Peters Box and Lumber Factory, in Bloomingdale. A fire had broken out in the dry room, just above the boiler room, and for a time there threatened to be a formidable blaze. The smoke poured out in dense volumes, filling the building, and nearly suffocating the firemen, who mounted upon the roof and directed their hose against the smouldering lumber, stored in the dry-room. The fire-marshal finally directed the men to cut holes in the tin covered roof, and this being done, the stream of water was brought to bear upon the openings, and the flames, which were just breaking out, speedily extinguished. The boiler-room and the upper portion of the factory, used for sawing lumber was flooded with water, but no material damage done in this direction. The loss, including the damage to the roof, and the wetting of machinery, lumber, etc, will amount to about \$500, and is fully covered by insurance.

This is the second fire originating in the dry-room within a very short time, and the insurance underwriters will probably ask to be relieved of further hazard.

The fire department were upon the scene with their usual promptitude, and by vigorous action, had the flames in subjection in an incredibly short space of time.

PAPER UNKNOWN

07/29/1880

* Charles Coeminsky, the 15 year old, who set fire to a barn and caused the death of little Leila Mellinger on 05/18/1880, at the corner of Franklin and Archer, was sentenced to six years in the penal department of the house of refuge by Judge Sinclair.

FORT WAYNE DAILY SENTINEL

Monday

08/02/1880

Page 4, Col. 3.

STRUCK BY LIGHTNING.

A barn belonging to a farmer named Manganson, living about four miles north of this city, was struck by lightning and together with all its contents totally destroyed. Every effort was made to recover some of the farming implements which were very valuable, but with no success. The loss will foot up at about \$4,000, while the insurance in the Farmer's company amounts to \$1,000.

The engine house repairs are progressing rapidly.

An alarm of fire was turned in from box 62 about 12:15 this morning, and the department responded, but only to find that it was the victim of some villain's little game.

The wretch that sends in those false alarms should be dissected.

The telephone and fire alarm wires cause a great deal of trouble.

The engine house roof is being repaired.

Vogel is after the false alarmer.

The Alerts will give an excursion soon.

The fire alarm has been quiet for some time.

The Alerts will meet again Monday evening.

The false alarm fiend got in his work again last night.

A false alarm was sent in from box 3-2 about eleven o'clock last night.

The Lafayette Journal says that the farm owned by Mr. Herschey and rented by William Albaugh, situated near Colburn, was the scene of a disastrous fire on Monday night. The large barn, one of the largest, if not the largest, in the county, was totally destroyed. Mr. Albaugh had gone to mill and had returned and was removing the harness from his team when he heard a crrcking noise in the barn. His suspicions were aroused and, leaving his horses standing outside, he went into the building and discovered that it was on fire. Before he could do anything to extinguish the flames they had gained such headway that all efforts in that direction were useless, and the barn was totally destroyed. Mr. Albaugh succeeded in removing from the building a spring wagon and a set of harness, and these were the only things saved. There were 800 to 900 bushels of wheat destroyed, so we are informed, and besides a lot of other grain, a reaper and mower, several plows and other agricultural implements. The loss will reach \$2,000. There was no insurance, and Mr. Albaugh loses the results of an entire season's work beside his implements. The barn was a large structure, 100 feet long and 40 feet wide. It was a good substantial building, and the miserable wretch who set it on fire deserved to burn with it.

FORT WAYNE DAILY SENTINEL Friday 08/13/1880 Page 4, Col. 2.

The false alarm man showed up again this morning.

FORT WAYNE DAILY SENTINEL Saturday 08/14/1880 Page 1, Col. 2.

The firemen complain bitterly of the telephone repairer's carelessness which results in numerous false alarms.

FORT WAYNE DAILY SENTINEL Monday 08/16/1880 Page 4, Col. 1.

The new engine house is well under way.

Several of the fire alarm boxes were repaired by Chief Vogel and his assistants last night.

FORT WAYNE DAILY SENTINEL Wednesday 08/18/1880 Page 4, Col. 3.

Early on Saturday morning the Fort Wayne station house at Sewickley was discovered in flames, but the fire was extinguished before any great damage was done.

BARNS BURNED.

A barn belonging to a farmer named Kinsey, who resides near Spenceville, was set on fire by incendiaries last Monday night and together with its contents totally destroyed. The loss will aggregate \$7,000. No insurance.

The lightning got in its work on a barn owned by a farmer named Woods in Pleasant township yesterday and totally destroyed it. The loss will amount to \$1,500. No insurance.

READY FOR AN EMERGENCY.

About 9 o'clock last evening a bright light was observed to shoot athwart the heavens and apparently caused by a fire in the southwestern portion of the city. With their characteristic vigilance the members of the fire department at once hooked their horses to the steamers and made everything in readiness in anticipation of their services being called into requisition, yet fortunately no alarm was sent in. The light was evidently caused by the burning of property of some description, although the fire was subsequently thought to have been beyond the city limits. Fort Wayne has one of the most vigilant fire departments in the country.

SWELTERING SOLONS.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.

The committee on fire department reported the purchase of another horse for the use of the department. The report was received and placed on file.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS.

The chief engineer of the fire department asked permission to attend a meeting of engineers in Boston next month, which was given.

The false alarm fiend got in his work again yesterday afternoon.

Chief Vogel will attend a meeting of the chief engineers at Boston next month.

INCIPIENT BLAZE.

At 11:30 last night the department was called out. A fire had broken out in the moulding room of Old's foundry, on Water street, but was extinguished by bystanders without the services of the fire department.

The fire department will get out of practice if a fire don't occur pretty soon.

BRIDGE BURNED.

Saturday night, at about 10 o'clock, the Howe truss bridge over the New Albany road, near Lafayette, took fire from some unknown cause and was completely consumed. Trains were delayed in consequence.

BIG FIRE AT VAN WERT.

DETERMINED TO BURN THE TOWN.

(Special telegram to the Sentinel.)

Van Wert, O., Sept. 6.— A stable belonging to C. A. Melsheimer was burned on Sunday morning about 4 o'clock. The fire was the work of an incendiary. The stable and contents were destroyed with the exception of a valuable horse, which by some means unaccountable, escaped with only a slight scorching. No insurance and loss about \$600.

During the burning of the stable another within 500 feet was set on fire by some person, while there were twelve persons watching the sparks to prevent the firing of a lumber yard and not at a greater distance than 150 feet from the first fire. The incendiary whoever he may be seems determined to spread destruction over the town. A third fire was also started during the first and a fourth the particulars of which has not yet come to light was set in the east part of town.

There seems to be a determined effort to burn the town and so far there has been no clue as to who the party is. An organized effort should be made and the offender brought to justice.

BURNING BARN.

This afternoon about two o'clock a fire broke out from some unknown cause, in the two unoccupied buildings fronting on Hough street, in the rear of the Pittsburgh car shop. An alarm was sent in, and the department responded promptly. The fire had obtained a good headway when the department arrived, and it was with great difficulty that the flames were finally brought under control. The buildings were damaged so as to render them entirely useless. Particulars as to who owns the structures, and whether or not they were insured, could not be ascertained.

ATTEMPTED INCENDIARISM.

Mayor Zollinger was in Chicago yesterday, and upon his return home, at 8 o'clock last evening, was surprised to find all the entrances to his residence, on Brackenridge street securely locked. Upon making inquiry as to the cause thereof he was informed that a partially demented and well known individual named John McElfatrick had been peering in at the windows, and that the family had become alarmed. About four o'clock this morning, as a railway night-caller was passing the Mayor's residence he discovered that a box in the woodshed in the rear of the house was on fire and gave the alarm. The box was filled with refuse wall paper and was burning briskly when discovered, although the prompt application of several buckets of water extinguished the flames. At this juncture Mrs. Zollinger observed a man stealthily passing through the yard, and upon informing the Mayor the latter started in hot pursuit and in turning the corner of the house ran against the early morning prowler. He proved to be none other than the identical McElfatrick before referred to. Mayor Zollinger collared him and took him to the calaboose but not having a key with him he was unable to incarcerate his prisoner, consequently he liberated him although it is the intention to make a re-arrest this afternoon. It was the evident purpose of whoever kindled the blaze to burn property, as the box in which the fire was started had been removed from where it had been left standing the evening previous.

SMALL BLAZE.

This afternoon about 2:15 an alarm of fire was sent in from box 14, corner of Ewing and Water streets. The department responded promptly. The fire was found to be located in the frame structure near the Ash factory. The building is occupied by several families. How the fire originated is unknown, but it was extinguished before any damage was done.

A BIG BLAZE.

THE INTERIOR OF ECKERT'S PORK PACKING

ESTABLISHMENT BADLY DAMAGED BY FIRE.

Shortly before two o'clock yesterday afternoon an alarm was sent in occasioned by the breaking out of a fire in the smoking apartment of Eckart's pork packing establishment on Calhoun street. In less than no time the department was on the spot and making strenuous efforts to check the progress of the flames. Had it not been for the skill and exertion of the fire laddies there is no telling what dire results might have followed, as the location of the fire was in the very center of the business portion of the city, and the surrounding buildings were filled with oil and other combustibles. The fire, however, was soon got under control and was then easily extinguished. An investigation showed that the frame work of the interior of the building was badly damaged and the upper portion of the building so badly burned and charred as to necessitate a new roof. A large amount of meat was also rendered useless. Mr. Eckart estimates his loss at about \$2000, which is fully insured in the city companies.

THE FIRE FIEND.

This forenoon at 11:05 an alarm of fire was sent in from box 25, corner of Lewis and Hanna streets, and the department responded with its usual promptness. The fire was found to be located in a summer kitchen attached to a house at 87 Holman street, and was extinguished with but little trouble, and without any material damage.

PAPER UNKNOWN 10/10/1880

* A wagon loaded with fireworks explodes on West Berry street while the men were distributing them along the line of march for a big parade for the republican ratification rally. Injured were Alex Butler, James McLean and Henry Mensch.

FORT WAYNE DAILY SENTINEL Tuesday 10/19/1880 Page 4, Col. 2.

A defective flue in the residence corner of Calhoun and Water streets caused an alarm of fire to be turned in from box 5 about 11:30 o'clock this forenoon, which was promptly answered by the department. There was much excitement, but little flame, and small amount of water averted the danger. The house is owned by Henry Sharp, and occupied by his son John. Damage slight.

An alarm of fire was sounded last evening between 7 and 8 o'clock, and another at about 6 o'clock this morning. The fire brigade and engines turned out on both occasions and rendered the services required. The cause of each alarm was the rekindling of the fire which, on Monday night, consumed the Bloomingdale brewery. This morning the firemen had a hard time of it, being kept at work from about 6 till 10 o'clock, playing upon a pile of burning sawdust. This is getting rather monotonous.

The insurance companies that will have to stand the loss, to the amounts named, by the destructive fire of last Monday night are: Rhode Island insurance association, three policies of \$595, \$735 and \$2,500 respectively; Hamburg Magdelburg, \$1,500; Lancashire, three policies, \$2,000, \$2,000 and \$1,590; Underwriters association, \$4,000; total insurance, \$14,920. The loss to Messrs. Rankert and Lutz will be over \$20,000.

It has been ascertained, as the result of a careful and systematic investigation, that the fire which destroyed the Bloomingdale brewery, was the result of an incendiary. Several hogs heads had been filled with kerosene oil, and fired. A bucket, used at the brewery, was found half full of the combustible liquid. A pair of pants, saturated with oil, but which were not burned, may possibly lead to the discovery of the guilty wretch.

Mr. Gustav Lutz offers \$100 reward for the arrest and conviction of the person or persons who set fire to the Bloomingdale brewery.

A small fire occurred on Water street, yesterday morning, shortly after midnight, and caused the destruction of a frame shed owned by Mr. Charles McCulloch and rented by Mr. W. S. Humphries. About one hundred dollars worth of wood owned by the latter was also consumed. The firemen did good work, and confined the flames to as narrow limits as possible. The origin of the fire is unknown. The barn was insured.

An alarm of fire, sounded shortly before 3 o'clock, this afternoon, was caused by a small blaze at Hood's meat store, No. 100 Barr street. The brigade, with all their paraphernalis, turned out, but the engines were not brought into requisition.

A \$2,000 fire occurred in the oil house of the Wabash road at 4:30 this morning, caused by setting a can of oil on the stove and allowing it to remain until the bottom melted out, causing the oil to run over the stove. The fire department was called out, but a few buckets full of water extinguished it.

The alarm of fire at noon to-day was caused by the men operating the telegraph wires.

The fire department boys sigh for a new spring wagon or something of that kind so they can exercise their horses.

There was an almost continual ringing of the fire bell yesterday, caused by the carelessness of the men who are putting up new wires in the city. Something should be done to prevent a recurrence of a similar transaction.

A SMALL BLAZE.

At noon to-day, as every one was hurrying home to dinner, Chief Vogel dashed madly up Berry street to the engine house and soon the hoarse notes of the bell fell upon the ears of all striking No. 52, and an engine, hose cart and the hook and ladder truck came tearing out of the building at a fearful rate of speed. In answer to the question as to the whereabouts of the fire, a Sentinel reporter was informed that C. L. Centliver's brewery was in flames and as the news spread great crowds of people hurried out Spy Run avenue to witness the conflagration, Chief Vogel was notified from the brewery by telephone that there was a fire and, as before stated took part of the department and went out to find a small establishment used as a place to bottle beer in flames and the workmen of the brewery pouring water on it from buckets. In a few moments the firemen had a stream of water on the building and soon succeeded in putting a stop to the fire. The building took fire from the stove and as all the men were engaged in cutting ice gained considerable headway before it attracted their attention. There was but slight damage to either the building or contents — \$150 will probably cover it all. The fire department is deserving of the highest praise for their prompt action in this matter, as the brewery is outside of the city limits and does not properly come under the protection of the department, and probably saved the entire brewery property from the flames as the buildings are all frame and would not have been hard to fire.

Chief Engineer Vogel this afternoon made a formal test of the water works by tapping a fire plug at the corner of the second ward engine house and attaching a section of hose with an inch and a quarter nozzle to it. With only a pressure of twenty pounds at the plug a stream of water was thrown some thirty-five or forty feet high. Another section of hose was attached and both threw water about the same height, no difference being perceptible after attaching the second piece of hose. Only one engine was used at the water works house and the pressure there was only twenty five pounds. Chief Vogel stated that with a pressure of 150 pounds he could throw a stream of water over the dome of the court house.

PAPER UNKNOWN

01/30/1881

* Lawless citizens are obtaining their water supply from the fire department cisterns, which are filled from the canal at a great expense.

FORT WAYNE DAILY GAZETTE

Tuesday

02/08/1881

Page 4, Col. 2 & 3.

A BIG BLAZE AT MONROEVILLE.

Chief Vogel of the fire department yesterday morning received a telegram for assistance from Monroeville where a fire broke out at 7 o'clock in a large three story frame building on the main street, owned by Samuel Poole and occupied by him on the first floor as a grocery store. The second floor was occupied for an office, a millinery store and a shoe-shop, while a masonic lodge room was in the third story. The fire department of Monroeville is naturally not adapted to the exigencies of a large fire but did the best they could and succeeded in throwing some water. However the building burned to the ground, with most of its contents. The loss will be \$5,000 on building with no insurance and the loss to stock, on which there is some insurance, is about \$2,500. The fire originated, it is said, from a defective flue. Mr. Poole is well known and liked in this city and will have a great deal of sympathy in his misfortune.

The Fort Wayne department after going as far as the depot returned, having been notified by telegraph that their services would not be required.

Frank Vogel and his men cleared the ice and melted snow from the sidewalk with the hose attached to the Lowry hydrant. Some unwary pedestrians got a bath greatly to the amusement of the "b'hoys."

Yesterday afternoon at 6:15 o'clock, Ed. McElpatrick and John Porter discovered flames issuing from the ramshackle old building, No. 46 West Main street, occupied as a wagon and blacksmith shop by P. J. Cosgrave. The young gentlemen broke in the back door and proceeded to throw water on the flames. Deputy Sheriff DeGroff Nelson, who was passing, notified the fire department, who were quickly upon the scene. The conflagration was occasioned by a too liberal supply of fuel in the stove. A hole was cut in the roof, and considerable plastering knocked down. The loss will be about \$25. No insurance.

The saw mill and factory of Phil Willetts, at Antioch, was destroyed by fire yesterday morning. The loss on building and stock will aggrerate about \$8,000. Partially insured.

At about 6:30 last evening the fire department were called to extinguish a small blaze in the Mayer House laundry, which at its inception threatened a conflagration of more or less formidable proportions. The fire originated from an over-heated stove in the dry room. The roof of the laundry was burned to the extent of about \$25. There is insurance. One of the firemen named Johnson, narrowly escaped death. He was connecting the hose with the hydrant, when the engine came dashing upon him unawares, and failed to take his head off by only a hair's breadth.

A small blaze in the residence of Jos. Lindman, on Clinton street, occasioned a moderate amount of excitement. The damage was slight.

A brick barn belonging to Mr. Oscar Simons, three miles southwest of the city, was destroyed by fire last evening. The illumination of the sky was visible in this city. Of course the fire department could render no assistance.

Mr. Oscar Simons estimates his loss on the barn burned Monday night, to be fully \$7,000, of which \$5,500 is on the structure and \$1,500 on contents. There was but \$3,000 insurance in the Watertown, of New York.

The fire department were called to Bloomingdale yesterday morning, by an alarm from box 12, on the corner of Third and Wells. A chimney in the house of George Strodel burned out with no loss, and the services of the firemen were not required.

The fire department has a new set of gongs and automatic bells. They were made by the National Fire Alarm Company of Boston, at a very considerable cost.

WHY IS THIS THUS?

The fire committee of the council are investigating into certain alleged peculiar transactions on the part of the chief of the fire department. It is affirmed that Mr. Vogel has drawn the pay of two former members of the department while they had no connection therewith. The names of these men are Emmett Dunfee and Fred Pohlmeyer. Dunfee left the employ of the department in October last, and is now employed at Old's spoke factory. Yet we find in the stub-book of receipts for monies paid out to city employes by Clerk Trentman, the following receipts; No. 1366, E. Dunfee \$10.00, receipted by himself per F. B. Vogel, December 1, in full for November salary; No. 136, E. Dunfee, \$10, receipted Dec. 31 for December salary, per F. B. Vogel; No. 290, E. Dunfee, \$10, receipted Feb. 1 for January salary, per F. B. Vogel. Pohlmeyer has also drawn salary, per Vogel, for several months during which he is known to have had no definite connection with the department. This matter is certainly peculiar, and it is proper that the public should have some explanation from Mr. Vogel which will place him in a less unpleasant light. Doubtless he can, if he will, explain. No fault has been found with his conduct of the department hitherto, to which he has brought energy and ability of no common order.

Mr. Frank Vogel was found at a late hour last night, and he pronounced the statement that his actions were open to question, false. He said that Dunfee was discharged January 3rd, last, and that Pohlmeyer was also discharged March 9th, for failure to attend to his duties. He claims everything is right, and gives as reason for drawing the pay of the two men himself, the fact that they owed him money and this was the only method of securing it. It is to be trusted that Mr. Vogel's version of the matter is the correct one. We only give publicity to the charge against him without affirming that he did not act in a justifiable manner. He pronounces the affair as trumped up by personal enemies.

The old fire gong in the engine house will be removed to the water works building tomorrow. The new indicator connects with the court house bell and rings it whenever an alarm comes in. Mr. Vogel is very proud of the new apparatus.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Frank Vogel, chief engineer of the fire department, regarding the article in our issue of yesterday morning, which created a profound sensation, says he courts an investigation of his books will be made by the fire committee. Emmett Dunfee, whose pay Mr. Vogel is alleged to have drawn without authorization and after Dunfee had left the employ of the city, was seen yesterday and stated that he had handed his resignation to Mr. Fred Michael's, foreman of No. 2, and which took effect Nov. 1, 1880; that he was not discharged, but voluntarily left the department because his business prevented his regular attendance upon duty; that if he owes Mr. Vogel money, he has never been favored with a bill of the amount; that he never authorized the chief to draw his pay; and his first intimation that salary had been drawn in his name after he left the department was from Mr. McCulloch, chairman of the fire committee who a week or so ago questioned him as to the matter.

We state these facts injustice to Mr. Dunfee who occupies a responsible position and was placed in a somewhat unpleasant attitude. The effect of his statement upon the case is to throw even more light upon it than before.

The fire department had to go to the corner of Calhoun and Columbia streets last night in response to an alarm from box 5. The trouble was found to be in a burning chimney between Hamilton's photograph gallery and C. M. Goodman's saloon. A slight stream was turned on, Chief Vogel procured a bag of salt and soon the adjoining premises were out of danger. The inside of the chimney was a glowing mass of burning soot and pitch. A large crowd gathered and were gently played upon by a hose in the hands of the firemen who relish an innocent joke as well as anybody.

Last evening, shortly before eight, the fire department were summoned to Wagner's drug store, on Calhoun street. A fire broke out under the sidewalk, probably through the carelessness of somebody who dropped a lighted match. A barrel of benzine caught fire and the blaze thereof shot up through the coal hole in the sidewalk in a manner truly alarming. The cellar was filled with inflammables, and it is lucky that the flames did not penetrate thereto. Mr. Wagner estimates his loss at about \$50.

The following gentlemen are ambitions to direct the fire department of our city in the capacity of chief engineer: F. B. Vogel, present incumbent; Philip Lindlag, Clark Slocum, and Charles Comparet.

A fire yesterday in the Keystone block came very nearly developing into an alarming conflagration. A stove in one of the rooms, threw forth a spark which set fire to the carpet, nearly ruining it. The timely arrival of the occupant of the room prevented any further damage.

Chief Vogel will give an exhibition of the workings of the fire department in a few days. The affair will be a formal test of the new water facilities.

The department were called by an alarm from box 13 to High street, yesterday afternoon, at 6 o'clock, where a partition in the residence of Mrs. Heldt caught fire from a defective chimney. The blaze was quickly extinguished.

Yesterday morning a fire broke out at Hicksville, Ohio, on the corner of Main and High streets, destroying the building occupied by Foote & Co. as a family grocery and bakery, and G. K. Otis agricultural implement store, Goller's shoe store and Bilderbeck's harness shop. All fully insured. A brick block will be immediately put up on the property, which is the best business in the town.

Mr. F. B. Vogel, chief of the fire department, claims that the attack upon him in last night's News under the signature of "Hans" was entirely uncalled for. While he does not object to his official record being attacked, he does not consider it manly or just to abuse his financial standing or attack his private character under a nom de plume. He proposes to make things warm for the writer of the article.

A fire on Friday night at Bluffton destroyed the stables belonging to J. E. McKindry & Son's wood working establishment. A large amount of stored machinery, hay, grain, vehicles and three head of horses were burned. The fire is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary. Loss about \$1,300. Insurance not known.

Last Friday night a fire, which might have been extensive, occurred at the dry goods establishment of A. Mergentheim & Co. Some lace illusion was draped over a gas fixture in the millinery department and caught fire there from, communicating to trimmings and artificial flowers. Some traveling men who were present assisted in the extinguishment of the blaze. The loss was about \$30.

A LOGANSPOUT BLAZE.

The following account of a fire last Tuesday night in Logansport is taken from the Journal. The property is owned by the Hamilton estate of this city:

about 10 o'clock last night a fire broke out on the north side of Broadway in the row of old buildings that are located about one-half way between the canal and Sixth street. The immediate origin of the blaze was in the rear of the building occupied by Barnett Brothers as a butcher shop. The light material composing the building burned like a tinder, and the fire spread rapidly. An alarm was turned in from box 32 at the corner of Sixth and Broadway. The department responded promptly, and after a half hour's work succeeded in extinguishing the last spark. The loss is not as great as would appear at first sight. The buildings are old shells of little value, mere relics of the long ago. Two of these buildings the ones occupied by Barnett Brothers and Miss Haley are probably total wrecks. In the rear of the former were stored some agricultural implements which were only slightly damaged. Miss Haley's stock of millinery goods, as soon as it was seen that the building must go, was removed to Connelly's grocery store and the cigar store of A. Kutz. A portion of Miss. H's goods in the rear of the room was destroyed, but the bulk was removed with little or no damage. The loss of Miss. Halley will not exceed \$100. The insurance upon her goods expired Monday.

The building occupied as a bakery by Mr. Freshour on the east and that occupied by Gripe's photograph gallery on the west were both damaged, though not seriously. The total loss will probably not exceed \$400.

That the fire was incendiary was proven by the discovery of an old skillet filled with half consumed rags and hair mattress material near where the fire must have started.

The fire created intense excitement and probably not less than eight hundred people were present looking on and giving orders as to how the fire should be put out. So far as the Journal scribe was able to learn the buildings were owned by the occupants. The ground is owned by the Hamilton estate of Fort Wayne.

PAPER UNKNOWN

04/29/1881

* Godfrey home on Bluffton Road — Fire.

Frank Vogel has been climbing telegraph poles and performing other wonderful acrobatic feats. To-day he is quite "broken up" and prefers to set down rather than to walk.

On Friday, the Godfrey residence on the Bluffton road caught fire. Several feet of roofing were destroyed before the blaze could be extinguished. Only by the utmost exertions was the structure saved.

James Keegan, we are informed, will be a candidate for chief of the fire department. Clark Slocum is understood to have withdrawn from the race.

The fire department was called out yesterday morning to extinguish a fire in the attic of the building on Barr street, known as Lafayette hall. A well directed stream did the work.

We are informed that C. W. Comparet and Phil Lindlag, candidates for the position of chief engineer of the fire department, have withdrawn from the field.

WANTS VOGEL RETAINED.

To the editor of the Gazette.

If there is any appointment in the power of our city council that should be held aloof from pot house political wire-pulling and trading, it is that of chief engineer of the city fire department, a part of our city organization in which every humble resident and householder is deeply interested. It has always been with pleasure and pride that our people have pointed to our splendid department, which is well known all over this country as being the best and most economically managed in the west. Then we are referred to the fire losses during the past ten years, which we are assured are the very smallest recorded against any city of our size.

Were the appointment of chief engineer of our city left with the people, there would be no question of Mr. Frank Vogel's chances, were the proprietors of our vast manufacturing establishments, business blocks, mercantile houses to decide this question. Can any sane man doubt their choice? Citizens, we urge you to impress this grave question upon the minds of your representatives, your councilmen. Let your motto be, "Vigilance"

PHOENIX.

Phil Lindlag desires us to say that he assuredly will be a candidate for chief of the fire department. Phil is a popular and competent young gentleman, but we fear he will not supercede Mr. Vogel, who brings to the race long experience, not to mention capability.

A barn and contents near Van Wert, O., belonging to Wm. E. Williams, was destroyed by fire a few days ago, resulting in a loss of about \$300. Mr. Williams the owner, is the father of John W. Williams, of this city.

The test of the water works is this afternoon. Chief Vogel will conduct the arrangements, which will be completed this morning. The affair will come off about the engine house, and will be witnessed, officially, by our somewhat common council.

The fire department were called about 6 o'clock last evening to extinguish a burning chimney upon the residence of Dr. C. B. Stemen, 261 West Wayne street. The fire caught from an overheated stove in the kitchen. There was no loss.

On the way to the Stemen alarm yesterday the bounding hose cart ran into Judge Morris' buggy, making a complete wreck thereof. Justice Pratt who was in another carriage jumped to the relief of the wrecked one and in doing severely sprained his ankle.

There was much fun at the water works test yesterday. Several firemen became tangled up on the hose, and a number of the bystanders had their hats neatly and expeditiously knocked from their shoulders. One of the firemen received a stream in his right eye, which is considerably discolored.

After the hose-cart had devastated the Morris buggy yesterday, a little daughter of the judge rushed out and grasped the bridle of the horse who was knocked off his pins and lay upon his side in the road. The frightened animal re-assured by the caresses of the brave little girl, speedily recovered his normal condition.

THE FIRE AT BASS' FOUNDRY.

Last evening, about 7:30 o'clock, an alarm of fire was sent in from the Bass foundry. The department were speedily on hand, but their services were not needed, as the fire had been extinguished previously by the watchman and assistants. The fire was located in the extreme eastern cupola, where a blaze broke out some time ago with more or less disastrous effect. As in the former instance, the conflagration was produced by an overheated furnace. The loss is trifling, a portion of the roof of the cupola having been burnt. Mr. J. H. Bass informs us that the expense of repair will be but a few dollars. Due precaution will be taken against a recurrence.

AGAIN IN ASHES.

THE ILL-FATED BIJOU THEATRE BURNED — A TOTAL LOSS —
THE POOR PERFORMERS SUFFER TO A HEAVY EXTENT —
THE FIRE THE WORK OF INCENDIARIES.

Yesterday about 5:30 p.m., smoke and finally flames were noticed proceeding from the Bijou theatre. John B. Monning and John A. Scott were the first to notice the conflagration, and both immediately telephoned the department. When the engines arrived on the scene, a few minutes later, the structure was all ablaze, and volumes of black smoke, intermingled with fiery sparks, poured from the ill-fated building. The interior of a theatre is necessarily a tinder box and the fire department, though they worked with a will under the direction of Chief Engineer Vogel, could accomplish little. Seven streams connected with heavy hydrants were turned on the building's exterior and interior and for two hours the firemen held briskly to their work, but their efforts were unavailing. We have witnessed many conflagrations but never one in which the devouring element so utterly held supremacy as in this case. The facts all go to show that the fire was a case of incendiarism, as the flames first bursting from the "flies" over the stage communicated to every portion of the building in a few seconds conclusively proving that arrangements had been made to this end by depositing inflammable material about the house. A Gazette reporter as soon the flames were sufficiently checked, entered the building and prodded about among the debris. His searches were rewarded by finding a ball of rags saturated with kerosene, and partially consumed. Just then a sardonic fire sharp playfully turned a hose upon the venturesome reporter who, dropping his discovery, fled for the exit, wet and disgusted.

The interior of the theatre is completely gutted. The flames did not reach the bar-room, or the manager's office, and much of the furniture and fixtures of these apartments were saved, including a desk containing the books, of course very wet, and the entire stock of liquor. A large number of cigars were not gotten out, and their fragrance was wasted. The auditorium as viewed from the dismantled stage presented a very blackened and unsightly appearance. Everything inflammable was a prey to the flames, and nothing escaped. The scenery and curtain are entirely consumed. Chief Vogel estimates the loss on the building as \$3,000. The insurance is as follows: Liverpool, London and Globe, two policies of \$1,500 each; Hartford, \$2,500. Of the former company S. C. Lumbard is agent and of the latter, F. P. Randall. The policies on building now amount to \$4,823.50.

The bijou theatre has experienced many vicissitudes. Erected in 1878, it was opened under the management of William Earl, now a railway engineer. Charles Bartine and W. H. Morris were successive managers, and their careers were each brief and unprofitable. Under R. L. Smith's management the theatre prospered until February 4, last, when a small fire and a great deal of water stopped the performances for a time. Manager Smith, who is personally popular, and is moreover a shrewd and energetic manager, is to be sympathized with in the hard luck which has befallen him, but may rely upon many a helping hand.

NOTES.

C. H. Yale, stage manages, loses a wardrobe valued at \$ 600, including many pantomine

and burlesque dresses. He fortunately removed some valuable music from the theatre to his hotel but a day or two previous.

Tilly Graham, a serio-comic, was here at the last fire. She made a remark in her dressing-room, Monday evening, to the effect that she wondered whether her effects would be safe if left at the theatre. Tilly is not the "Jonah" of the theatre.

A man was overheard to say on the street during the fire: "This is the last of the Bijou; we have gained our point." Miss Fanny Smith was informed of the remark and with difficulty could be restrained from following the man and giving him into custody.

R. L. Smith, the lessee, had no insurance. He loses his all. Mrs. Smith loses her valuable wardrobe.

Lou H. Smith, bar-tender, was on duty at the time of the fire.

Noll & Bro., the Clinton street boot and shoe men, suffered loss in having the glass in their doors and windows demolished by the heat. Some of their stock was also slightly damaged by water.

Shober, while prospecting within the ruined theatre was knocked down by a stream from a hose. His dignity was more or less ruffled and his plumage dampened.

Several bad fissures are noticeable in the rear wall of the theatre.

A festive fireman played upon Geo. Ely with a hose, and George had to go home and effect a change of raiment.

Al Decker, stage manager, loses his wardrobe, valued at \$300; Roselle female impersonator, his entire stage and street wardrobe even to the last change of linen, valued at \$500; Gibson and Binney, cloggers, their wardrobe worth \$200; Grace Monroe, serio-comic, is out \$80; George Brungman loses a \$75 cornet; J. M. Winans, leader of orchestra, a lot of music having rescued his cornet valued at \$75.

Tilly Graham, Dolly Foster, Ada Burnett and other lady performers lose their all. May Raymond's wardrobe was saved.

A piano belonging to T. P. Anderson was utterly ruined.

J. Nutting, of the Ewing estate, ruined a new Prince Albert coat while on a tour of inspection about the ruins.

Ben Lytle, janitor of the theatre, was asleep in the gallery when the fire broke out. He was awakened by a little dog, his usual companion, which bit the sleeping man on the ear.

The salaries of all the people employed about the theatre, including performers, were paid yesterday.

Arrangements have been made with H. S. Mensch for the burned out company to show at the Academy, Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings. The Volks Garden entertainments will be continued.

A purse will be raised for the benefit of the unfortunate Manager Smith by his numerous friends.

That the burning of the theatre is to be laid to the incendiaries and experts at that, can no longer be doubted. Marshal Falker suspects two boys employed about the theatre, and is watching for evidence to arrest them. They would have been taken in last night but for good reasons. They both had money and avowed their intention of leaving for Chicago last night on the midnight train, but did not go, probably because they were watched by the officers. More light may be thrown upon this mysterious affair to-day.

A YOUTHFUL FIRE BUG.

DENNIS BOWERS, A "FLY" CHICAGO KID ARRESTED FOR SETTING FIRE TO THE BIJOU THEATRE.

Last evening, Officer Peter Owens arrested Dennis Bowers, a lad of about sixteen, who was locked up in the calaboose on the serious charge of arson, his particular offence being that of having set fire to the Bijou theatre. It is claimed that young Bowers stated to three or four bootblacks and street gamins that he had set fire to the Bijou. To one, Delano, he said that he had accomplished his purpose by smearing the scenery with coal oil and igniting it with a match. He said also that he was given \$10 to do the job by a saloon keeper, whose name he did not reveal. To other street boys, including the colored lad, Massey, "Mickey" McVeigh, Tom Epps and others, he made similar statements, stating also that he was an old hand at the business, and to burn a barn occasionally was only a pastime. Geo. Bringman, treasurer of the Bijou last evening identified the lad as one who with a pal, hung about the theatre the afternoon of the fire until ordered away. Ben. Lytle, the janitor of the theatre, also identified young Bowers as the boy whom he (Lytle) fired from the stage of the theatre the afternoon of fire. Bowers was loafing about, contrary to the rules of the house, and his actions were very suspicious.

A reporter called to see the youth last evening. The boy is about sixteen years old, and is a type of the Chicago street arab. He is evidently a very sharp little rascal, and although he contradicts himself frequently, he means to be shrewd, and is at times. He says he has been working at Wilding's coal yard, but left there Thursday. He furthermore stated that he has been in the city ten days, and has a mother living on Harrison street, Chicago. The "kid" is very proficient in the latest thieves' slang, and is undoubtedly a very tough youth — a child of the streets as it were. John A. Rice, a young lawyer just settled here, has taken charge of the boy's interests, and will endeavor to prove an alibi. Bowers' companion, a Pittsburgh brakeman, will be called to vouch for the boy's whereabouts at the time of the fire. The preliminary examination will be held this morning before some justice of the peace.

Mrs. John Downey and James K. Robinson, a rural looking individual, were arrested last night at the residence of Mrs. Downey, on Barr street, by Officers Wenninghoff and Troutman. The pair who were evidently in amorous dalliance, furnished bail and were released. Mrs. Downey, who is the wife of a fireman, has not lived with her husband for some time. She has been pulled in before on the same complaint.

A false alarm from Box 31, at 12 o'clock last night, caused the department a run to the corner of Main and Griffith streets.

Policeman Schwartz night before last discovered the braces of the Gay street railroad bridge to be on fire. With his cane the officer poked out the fire which would have certainly spread and destroyed the bridge had it not been for Schwartz' timely discovery.

Gus Strodel was fined by the fire committee for insubordination to the chief of the department, F. B. Vogel.

Chief Vogel has chosen for his first and second assistants, Geo. Strodel and John McGowan. These selections are excellent.

The chief of the fire department reported that he had appointed Geo. Strodel as first assistant chief, and Jno. McGowan as second assistant; concurred in unanimously.

Last night, as John Downey, the fireman, strolled along Water street, he confronted Mrs. Downey, his wife, and a female friend. Mrs. D. alleges that John slapped her thrice, and was not choice in his use of language toward her. The parties do not live together, and Mrs. Downey has been arrested on the charge of being a prostitute. She claims that she will this morning file an affidavit before the mayor against Downey charging assault and battery.

It was Mike Connors, of the fire department, who sprang forward at the risk of life and limb and directed the course of Mr. Henry Olds' team in the direction of the calaboose, thereby halting them. Franks, the driver, was unable to control the animals. Mr. Olds bestowed a \$10 bill upon Mr. Connors last evening as a slight mark of appreciation of that gentleman's services.

A serious conflagration was averted yesterday by the presence of mind of Etta Perrin, a young miss, who discovered flames bursting from the floor of the kitchen of E. H. Bookwalter's residence on Water street. With much presence of mind she secured water and extinguished the blaze. The fire originated from a spark which flew from a stove.

The coal cart boys of the fire department will appear in uniform in the parade the Fourth. Joe Manier will be captain.

Under the direction of Chief Vogel, the fire department had a test display last night of the water works on Main street. The streams thrown were illuminated by colored lights. In order to call his men together, the chief turned in the fire alarm from box 52, centrally located, and the sidewalks was obstructed by a large crowd, who assembled, thinking there was a fire. The authority of the chief or anybody else to tamper with the alarm is to be questioned.

THE FIRE YESTERDAY.

OPPENHEIMER'S STORE AND THE GRAND OPERA HOUSE IN RUINS
THE ENTIRE BLOCK THREATENED.

Just as our forms were being sent to press yesterday morning the alarm of fire resounded and we had but time to briefly mention the result in our issue of yesterday. The fire originated in the building owned by A. M. Tower and occupied by A. Oppenheimer, dealer in hides, wool, Etc. The flames were first discovered bursting forth by the Sweiters brothers, bakers, who notified the department, who arrived when the building was in full possession of the fiery element. Seeing that nothing could be done to save the Tower building, Chief Vogel directed his efforts to the protection of the adjoining buildings which were seriously threatened. He directed eleven streams upon the Grand opera house and adjoining building occupied by Becker & Wile and for a time it was thought the flames were held in check. The chief endeavored to find some one with a key to the Grand opera house main door, but nobody possessing it showed up, and an entrance had to be forced with the aid of an axe. The smoke poured forth in such dense volume that the firemen were driven back and the streams had to be directed for a time from the top of adjoining buildings and through the windows. Soon fiery tongues of flame shot forth from the roof, and then it was apparent that the building could not be saved, and by Mr. Vogel's orders the firemen set to work to save the adjoining buildings from ignition. There is an unprotected opening on the third floor of the Oppenheimer building communicating with the opera house, and through this the flames shot and instantaneously licked up the inflammable scenery, curtains, etc., and gutted the auditorium. The roof, a light truss one succumbed speedily and the interior now presents a extremely desolate appearance.

The Tower building is gutted and the walls are seared with deep fissures which will necessitate the razing of the entire structure. The stock of Becker and Wile, dealers in hides, adjoining the opera house on the east is damaged by water, and much of M. N. Jacobs & Co's stock, No. 55 Columbia Street, is also rendered valueless by water. The loss of John A Scott, flour and feed, will not reach \$25. Becker & Wile and Jacobs & Co., are fully insured upon their considerable loss. The loss on Oppenheimer's stock will be about \$5,000, which is mostly covered by insurance in the agencies of S. C. Lumbard and A. H. Carier.

Capt. White, owner of the opera house, at first estimated his loss at \$5,000, though examination has proved that in reality \$10,000 will cover all damage. There is \$8,700 insurance on building, furniture and fixtures, much of which loss will be paid by Lumbard's agency. Capt. White will rebuild as soon as the losses are adjusted but he does not seem inclined to devote the new structure to theatrical purposes, and it is safe to conclude that the Grand opera house will be known no more but that the building will be completed in the shape of store-rooms.

A number of persons who think they knew all about the management either of a fire or anything else, complained because Chief Vogel did not immediately direct several streams into the interior of the opera-house. To these wise individuals it only need be said that Mr. Vogel saved the entire block from destruction, and exercised the best possible judgement in the

disposition of his force.

The firemen were utterly exhausted when morning came and could hardly muster energy enough to reel their hose. The chief with kindly thoughtfulness provided several gallons of hot coffee for the boys which he realized was far better for them in their condition than alcoholic stimulants.

The fire of yesterday was one of the largest for a long time and might have easily proven the most destructive known in the history of the city.

FORT WAYNE DAILY GAZETTE Wednesday 07/13/1881 Page 5, Col. 1 & 4.

The fire chief claims that there is insufficient hose for the proper working of his department. The council will advertise for 2,000 feet more.

The chief of the fire department reported that the Opera house fire demonstrated that the city had but 2,100 feet of serviceable hose and asked for a further supply; referred to the committee on fire department.

FORT WAYNE DAILY GAZETTE Tuesday 07/19/1881 Page 5, Col. 2.

John Downey was yesterday granted a divorce from Eliza Downey in the superior court. Patrolmen Humbrecht and Troutman testified to having arrested the woman in alleyways and elsewhere while associating with other male prostitutes.

There is more trouble in the fire department. It seems that Chief Vogel previous to the contemplated 4th of July celebration, insisted upon the minute men appearing in new uniforms, and as they allege without their consent, docked them four dollars apiece for that purpose and drew that amount on his own warrant from the city treasurer. The council last evening passed a resolution providing for the return of the amount named to the men, and that the same be deducted from Mr. Vogel's salary.

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

Councilman Hettler submitted the following resolution:

Whereas, The chief of the fire department has without any authority deducted and drawn the sum of four dollars from each fireman without any advice or knowledge of this council.

Therefore be it resolved, that the city clerk be and is hereby instructed to issue city orders in full to each fireman for their claim and that the clerk deduct the amount so drawn as above stated from the salary of the chief engineer. Adopted by a vote of nine to three Fox, Mohr and Wessel voting in the negative.

The same gentleman introduced the following:

Resolved, That hereafter all pay rolls of the chief engineer of the fire department and city assessor shall be paid after the same shall have been approved by the finance committee and attested by the mayor. Unanimously adopted.

Chief Vogel says in reference to the action of the council in deducting from his salary the money expended to equip the firemen with hats, shirts, &c., that the fire committee ordered the arrangement and it is unjust to make him pay the amount. Mr. Vogel seems to be afflicted with two or three "kickers" in his department of whom he should get rid as soon as possible.

A couple of firemen came to blows last night. The row originated in Gus Strodel's saloon, and the rest of the matter transpired at the engine house. No arrests.

Mrs. Murray Hartnett yesterday brought suit against F. B. Vogel, chief engineer of the fire department, for \$150 damages sustained by being wet with a hose in the hands of firemen. At the trial of the case before Justice Harding yesterday, it was brought out in evidence that Mr. Hartnett went to the chief and in reply to his polite expostulations, was answered with an oath and advised to seek satisfaction of the city. Justice Harding took the case under advisement.

Last evening, a pile of sawdust back of Hoffman's saw mill on West Main street was discovered to be on fire and a still alarm was sent in to the engine house by telephone. A hose cart went to the scene and after an hour and a half's hard work succeeded in extinguishing the fire. The burning sawdust was in close proximity to two frame houses and might have resulted in a disastrous conflagration. The fire was supposed to have originated by the recklessness of small boys who amuse themselves along the river bank by making small bonfires.

A frame shed belonging to Conductor Dan Stonecifer, of the Muncie, and located in the rear of No. 36 Second street, was destroyed by flames yesterday. In the shed were two children who were fortunately rescued. The fire department were on hand.

A wagon belonging to the fire department and loaded with telegraph poles, broke down on Calhoun street yesterday. The wagon is about used up, and should be retired.

Councilman Boltz and Wolf had not settled the matter of purchasing hose for the fire department. 1,000 feet will be purchased, one sample a carbonized hose selling at 94 cents a foot, while for a cotton hose manufactured at Cleveland and pronounced by competent judges the very best obtainable, but 90 cents is wanted

John Downey, of the fire department, had his lower jaw broken yesterday while unloading telegraph poles at the market house. A spike flew from the wagon and struck Downey in the face. The sufferer is at the St. Joseph hospital under the treatment of Drs. Dinnen and Sweringen.

THAT HOSE.

There seems to be some dissatisfaction with the contract made by Councilmen Boltz and Wolf in behalf of the council with the New York Gutta Percha and rubber company for the purchase of 1,000 feet of carbolized hose manufactured by this concern at 94 cents per foot. In the first place experts inform us that the carbolized hose is inferior to the cotton hose manufactured by the Cleveland Hose company, and moreover costs four cents per foot more than the article manufactured by the New York company. The fire department, the opinion of whose employes is certainly entitled to some consideration, are pretty unanimous in stating that the carbolized hose as now in use by the department has not given entire satisfaction or proved as serviceable as guaranteed. Three sections of the carbolized hose which was warranted for forty-two months at a pressure of 400 pounds to the square inch burst after two year's use and was sent back to New York via the Empire line with the request that it be replaced according to contract. The company have not up to the present time fulfilled their contract and replaced the hose. The cotton hose is guaranteed forty-eight months at a pressure of 450 pounds and sells for 90. It is pronounced a better hose by the experts of the city but inasmuch as the opinion of the chief engineer and assistants is alleged to have been disregarded in making the selection of hose, it is perhaps to be presumed that the councilmen are better posted.

MALCONTENT FIREMEN.

There was a stormy meeting of the minute men at the engine house last night. It appears that Chief Vogel has ordered the uniforms which consist of a hat and cap, and deducted the amount from the pay of the men without deigning to consult them. This angered the men and they held a meeting. It was decided by the majority that the uniforms would be taken by the men, though a petition will be prepared and presented to the council, asking that honorable body to pay for the hats and caps. Out of a salary of \$10 per month the boys feel that it is not just to make them pay for this perhaps necessary frippery. Councilmen Boltz and Wolf, of the fire committee, were present and signified their approval of the petition, and promised to vote for the payment by the council. The meeting was a secret affair and is said to have been at times stormy, several minute men leaving in disgust before the close of the meeting.

COUNCIL PROCEEDINGS.

The minute men of the fire department asked the city to pay for their recently purchased uniforms, and after some discussion by Messrs. Hamilton, Hettler, Wolf, and others the petition was referred to the mayor and committee on finance to endeavor to secure the payment of the uniforms out of the Fourth of July fund.

Report of Committees.

The committee on fire department ask further time for the purchase of hose; second, they report that the chief of the fire department refused to allow the fire department to take part in the firemen's tournament during the Northern Indiana fair. After discussion as to whether the council had the power to order the department out on that occasion, further time was granted for the purchase of hose, and the second section filed. The same committee reported in favor of the water works illumination and on motion this portion of the report was concurred in.

A fire was discovered last night at 12 o'clock on the third floor of Fred Eckert's packing house. The floor was burned somewhat but otherwise the damage will be nominal. The fire was first noticed by Lou H. Smith, of Newcomer's Branch, who notified Officer O'Connell who turned in the alarm. Fully insured.

On Wednesday evening last, some maliciously disposed person poured some coal oil under the front doorstep of Muller Bros' jewelery store, at Leo, and ignited it. Fortunately the only damage done was the burning of a hole in the floor, but the loss would have been serious had the flames progressed as the firm is composed of young men just starting in business and the stock was moreover not insured.

Last night at 6 o'clock the fire department were called to Drier Bros' drug store, corner Calhoun and Columbia streets. One of Robert Ogden's plumbers in making connection with the gas pipe in the cellar forgot to unite a section connecting with the generator, and the gas rushed out and filled the cellar. In lighting the gas in the right hand show window, an explosion took place which did no further damage than to knock out a pane of glass and scatter the goods piled up, in various directions. A lad employed in the store started to go down cellar just before the explosion took place and may thank his lucky stars that he didn't descend.

MINGLED ELEMENTS.

FIRE AND WATER DEVASTATE THE PREMISES NOS. 16 AND 18 WEST COLUMBIA STREET — NATHAN BROS. & STRAUS, AND A. STRAUS & CO'S. STOCK OF CIGARS RENDERED WORTHLESS — THE DAMAGE DONE.

Columbia street came very near enjoying another large conflagration last night. As it was, the damage occasioned by fire and water, principally the latter, was considerable. About 7 o'clock, as Mr. Wm. Donnell was going to his home, he noticed smoke issuing from the third story windows opening on the alley of the building occupied by Nathan Bro's. Y Straus, wholesale liquors; A. Straus & Bro., wholesale cigars; A. S. Allen house and sign painter; August Smith, taxidermist, and a number of roomers. Donnell promptly let loose his lungs and yelled "fire" loudly. An alarm was turned in which brought the department to the scene with their usual promptness. Soon a ladder was placed at one of the third story windows, opening on the alley, a hose unreeled and placed in position. Just as the flames burst forth from the rear window of the third story, and as dense volumes of smoke poured from the paint room of Albert S. Allen, the several streams were directed and in an hour's time the last spark was extinguished. The fire was almost entirely confined to the third story, and the water streamed down upon thousands of cigars owned by A. Straus & Bro., utterly ruining them. This and the loss to Mr. Allen's stock of paints, oils, &c., in the third story was the principal damage done. The office fixtures were thoroughly drenched but not damaged to any extent.

The building is one of the oldest in the city and was erected thirty-five years ago by T. P. Anderson and the late John Hamilton. It is now owned by Marx Graff. The third floor being filled with the inflammable materials used by Allen, the painter, it is a wonder that the building was saved. The chief of the fire department here at least acquitted himself with credit and he may be thanked that the building was not gutted.

The loss on building will not amount to over \$1,500, fully insured. Messrs. Nathan Bros. & Straus' loss on their stock of liquors which are on the first floor will be slight, say \$500. The insurance on stock carried by this firm is \$10,000, carried principally in the agencies of J. E. Graham and D. L. Harding. The policies are as follows: \$1,000 each in Aetna, Phoenix of Brooklyn, Phoenix of Hartford, Howard of New York, Insurance Co., of North America, Pennsylvania Fire; \$2,000 each in German American and underwriters.

A. Straus & Bros' insurance is but \$2,000 all in the Howard of New York. Their loss will considerably exceed the amount of insurance.

A. S. Allen the painter had a policy of \$300 in one of D. L. Harding's companies. He thinks his loss will exceed \$500. A couple of new signs being painted for J. Leichner were licked up by the flames. Fortunately a lot of varnish ordered by Mr. Allen had not arrived and he can at least reckon on that.

The loss of August Smith, taxidermist, is \$50. No insurance.

During the progress of the fire Fred Michaels, of the Fire Department, was severely bruised and narrowly escaped a worse fate. He made a misstep and fell from the stone sidewalk on his face and was hurt probably internally. He was assisted home. Two of the firemen,

“Scotty” and Wm. Swier, jumped from a second story window to escape suffocation by smoke. Another fireman succumbed to the smoke and would, perhaps, have croaked, had not his companions dragged him to a window.

Marshal Falker and a reporter in their explorations in the rear of the building found a jug of excellent whiskey, but being strict temperance adherents looked not upon the tempter.

Crowds of people lined the sidewalks and as usual offered free advice to the firemen as to the management of the fire, the instructions, strange to say, being quite ignored.

FORT WAYNE DAILY GAZETTE

Sunday

09/04/1881

Page 5, Col. 3.

A lot of paper and rags in the basement beneath A. Mergentheim's store caught fire yesterday about noon probably from a lighted stump of a cigar or a match thrown carelessly in the pile through a register hole cut in the floor above. Mr. Harry Hammill extinguished the fire with a common hose. He was chided for his prompt action by Chief Vogel, who perhaps wanted the glory, and sharply rejoined.

FORT WAYNE DAILY GAZETTE

Friday

09/09/1881

Page 5, Col. 2.

The barn of Jacob Fry of Madison township was ignited by a spark from the stack of a passing engine day before yesterday and entirely consumed. The loss is considerable and there is no insurance.

A \$40,000 BLAZE.

THE STAVE FACTORY OF H. F. SCHNELKER & CO., AT NEW HAVEN,
DESTROYED BY FIRE.

Yesterday afternoon, at 3:30 o'clock, the large stave factory of H. F. Schnelker & Co., at New Haven, was discovered to be on fire. The fire department of the village, as may be supposed, is very inefficient, having but little facilities to cope with an extensive conflagration. Their efforts to extinguish the flames proved utterly futile and in the space of half an hour a mass of blackened ruins marked the spot where the factory and sheds had stood. During the fire, a man named Wilson was struck by a falling timber and seriously hurt.

The loss will be about \$40,000. Insurance \$7,000. Inasmuch as the loss to the proprietors will be very heavy, they require time for consideration before determining to rebuild.

From Chief Vogel, who returned last evening from the scene of the fire, we learned that the stock and machinery was still burning. The office being on the other side of the Wabash track was saved. The fire originated from a spark from the furnace falling on a pile of shavings. The factory people had failed to "wet down" as is their custom, and everything was as dry as tinder and an easy prey to the flames. The danger to the village of a holocaust was at one time imminent and had the wind changed to the south, not a building in the place would have escaped. Owing to the long drouth, there is absolutely no water facilities in New Haven in case of fire. Mr. Schnelker who is a young and enterprising gentleman is deeply to be pitied. He was prospering finely, having cleared over \$18,000 last year.

A barn and contents belonging to M. Axt, the lamplighter, in the rear of 175 Francis street burned to the ground yesterday morning. The loss is about \$150. Not insured.

John Downey, of the fire department, whose jaw was fractured while on duty, unloading hoop poles, wants the council to pay the doctor's bill and himself for losing time occasioned by the accident.

Last Tuesday night Van Wert, Ohio was visited by a serious conflagration, resulting in the destruction of six barns on West Main street. The fire was of incendiary origin, a man being seen to run from Hal Moran's barn, the first one to burn, just as the flames burst forth. There were six barns all on fire at one time. The fire engine had been tampered with and a plan had evidently been laid to burn the town.

Chief Vogel's resignation is final unless the fire committee suspend Swain. Mr. Vogel very properly believes that while he is chief of the department he should be allowed to exercise some discretion in his authority over his men. If he is to be constantly harrassed by the committee in these small matters he thinks it is time he stepped out.

If the Chief of the fire department should in any event not be re-instated in his position the question of the candidacy of other individuals arises. We know that George Strodel whom we should most favor in the event of another chief being needed, doesn't want the position, believing that a man of business should not be chief of the fire department. However, Mr. Strodel and others of his associates who are friendly to Vogel will remain gallantly by the department as they always have done.

MUCH MUDDLED.

IS THE FIRE DEPARTMENT OF FT. WAYNE.

CHIEF VOGEL REFUSES TO REINSTATE GEO. SWAIN AND IS SUSPENDED
BY THE MAYOR.

THE CHIEF WILL RESIGN TO-DAY—BOTH SIDES OF THE DIFFICULTY.

The other morning the Gazette contained a two or three-line item stating that George Swain, driver of the truck, had been suspended from duty in the fire department by the chief, F. B. Vogel, for insubordination. It was not then anticipated that this supposed trifling matter would lead to a serious rupture in the fire committee and the suspension by the mayor of the chief, and his consequent resignation. Yet all these things have come about, and it is in this wise. Yesterday morning, the fire committee, consisting of Councilmen Wolf, Boltz and Yergens, agreed to re-instate Swain, and after reprimanding him ordered him to go to work. Swain went to his duties about noon yesterday and was met by George Thieme who informed him that he had been placed in charge of Swain's team by the chief. Swain waited on the fire committee and reported the situation. The mayor was advised to order the committee to place Swain's reinstatement in writing and present it to the Chief. Councilman Wolf, one of the members of the committee, happened to be unavailable just then, so Messrs. Boltz and Yergens, the other members, signed the document. Chief Vogel happened to be passing about this time and Councilman Boltz stepped out upon the street and asked him if he meant to submit to the ordering of the committee and allow Swain to be reinstated. Mr. Vogel replied "no," whereupon he was shown the order signed by the fire committee, or rather two members thereof. The chief rejoined that this was not sufficient authority and Councilman Boltz reported the matter to the mayor who, considering the chief of the fire department had been guilty of disobedience of orders, suspended him in writing, the suspension being conveyed to Mr. Vogel by the city marshal. The mayor will bring the matter before the council next Tuesday evening to be acted upon by that honorable body.

A reporter heard the statement of the mayor, which is to the effect that Swain started out of the engine house, Wednesday morning, to go to the alleged fire in Duck alley, without notifying the engine drivers of the location of the fire. The chief suspended him and the fire committee agreed with the chief so far as to reprimand him. The mayor stated that it was proven that the chief used boisterous language to Swain and in fact told him to "go to h—." Consequently, Swain whose offense seemed to be of the head and not of the heart and taking into consideration the aggravating language of the chief to his subordinate, was re-instated. The refusal of the chief to obey orders of the committee (or two of them) was, the mayor thought, a sufficient ground for the officer's suspension. First Assistant Chief Engineer George Strodel was placed in charge of the department, and the men were so notified by the mayor.

The reporter then saw Mr. Vogel, who said little except to deny the statement that he has

used profane language toward Swain. He said he should obey the orders of the mayor to the letter until he sent in his resignation as chief of the department this morning. If the city could spare his services well and good. He believed he had acted perfectly in accordance with his duty.

Councilman Wolf, who was not at all inclined to let off Swain with his light punishment, a reprimand, but was in favor of suspension, though he finally came around to the way of thinking of Boltz and Yergens for the sake of preserving harmony, upholds Mr. Vogel. Mr. Wolf says he did not sign the order of re-instatement, which is true and intimates that he would not have done so had an opportunity been offered him. He says Councilman Yergens is inclined to agree with him.

From what we personally know, we think that the quarrel between Vogel and swain is a personal one. Swain has not been any too fond of Chief Vogel since that gentleman had occasion to sharply reprimand him some time since for what is alleged to be the careless upsetting of a truck. We think Mr. Vogel has made, in the whole too excellent a fire chief to allow him to resign. The matter can no doubt be amicably arranged.

Just here, however, we would remark that there are altogether too many disturbances in this municipal department, and some efforts should be made to have the machinery run a little more smoothly. The public are getting tired, as it were, of so much dissension.

FORT WAYNE DAILY GAZETTE Tuesday 10/18/1881 Page 5, Col. 2.

Chief Engineer Vogel, of the fire department, has not yet tendered his resignation, nor will he until after the result of the council meeting tonight. Meanwhile the structures of several city papers are in very bad taste.

FORT WAYNE DAILY GAZETTE Wednesday 10/19/1881 Page 5, Col. 1 & 2.

Acting Chief Engineer Strodel was for the first time called to direct matters at the fire engine house yesterday. Happily it was but a false alarm.

Mr. Frank Vogel, it is said, hesitated to send in his resignation as chief of the fire department because he feared it would be too quickly accepted by the council. We hesitate to believe this report. Mr. Vogel himself claims that he don't want the position, which should settle it.

Last night at 12:30 o'clock, the alarm summoned the fire department to the rear of J. G. Thieme's residence, East Wayne street. A barn belonging to that gentleman, with its contents consisting of fuel, etc., was destroyed. Loss about \$125. A valuable horse belonging to Joe Clark, and much frightened was removed from the barn immediately behind the burning structure.

THE FIRE CHIEF.

We understand that the bitter and unjust opposition of an evening handbill to Mr. F. B. Vogel is on account of the fact that they know and have been informed by him that he cares not a straw for their opinions or advice. The special committee of the council have yet made no report, and it would be in much better taste for Mr. Page to preserve silence until the committee make some report. As yet they have taken no action. It is also understood that the hand-bill has a scheme on foot to displace Vogel and place ex-Marshal H. M. Diehl'n the position at \$1,000 or \$1,200 per year. Mr. Diehl is an excellent gentleman but we doubt his fitness for the position of fire chief. We think Mr. Vogel will be retained, not at all that he desires to be, but because he is generally conceded to have experience and ability. However, the committee will do as seems proper to them, without consulting the opinion of Page and his hirelings.

Chief Vogel was censured last night by the council but was reinstated as chief. This is just the result we expected. Mr. Vogel was proven so efficient in charge of the fire department that even his enemies hesitate to lose his services. Whether he will return to his duties remains to be seen. He believes he was right in his action and may at once tender his resignation. For the interests of our city, we ask him not to do so. The fire department needs his experience and his faithfulness.

The fire department has been enlivened by no rows for several days.

A large barn belonging to L. S. Maples, of Maples was destroyed by fire Sunday.

Frank Casso's house, 7 Oak street, was damaged by yesterday morning to the extent of about \$25. The flames ate up most of the roof of the back kitchen.

We hear of no trouble lately in the fire department. This is passing strange.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT MUDDLE.

WHAT THE LITTLE GAME APPEARS TO BE.

An evening handbill thinks that the mayor is to be commended for his action in demanding an overhauling of the fire department. So he may be, but it may be asked why as executive of the city he has allowed so much dissension, not only in this department, but has winked at abuses in the police department. A number of the firemen, especially the assistant chief and minute men, feel insulted at the mayor's remarks at the council meeting Tuesday night. If the mayor is in favor of the reorganization of the fire department, as the handbill says he is, he must then be willing for the city to stand the expense of a paid department, and do away with the present half pay, half volunteer system. What the fire committee in making their investigations will do, is quite evident. They don't like Mr. Vogel and rather favor the clique of aspirants for the position of fire chief, who are in turn in league with several insubordinate underlings about the engine house. In case of the retirement of Vogel, the present system goes under. We are assured that the volunteers will leave and the paid system will have to be inaugurated. The city is not able to stand this additional expense. \$20,000 has to go to the water works, and Captain Hettler was informed Tuesday night by City Treasurer Barton that no money was in his hands for water works purposes. Next year is time enough to disburse money for the fire and police departments, the streets and for other needed improvements. The tax payers, whose friend the Gazette is and ever has been, will appreciate this. We don't see why the mayor felt insulted at Vogel's communication. Thieme, the truck driver, made a complaint, and in discharge of his duty, Mr. Vogel reported the matter to the council.

In conversation with a member of the council yesterday he stated that in case the so-called investigation was merely a scheme to destroy the present volunteer system and gratify the ambition of the aforesaid aspirants, then he, the councilman, would sharply and publicly call the mayor, whose duty it is to see that municipal matters run smoothly, to account.

Emmet Dunphy, minute man, who left the fire department in disgust some time ago, on account of some trouble about his salary, says he has been invited to return to the department.

The minute men of the fire department who turned out at the display during the fair and for the benefit of the Adrian delegation were promised two dollars each by a member of the fire committee. They will wait for it.

The mayor and fire committee are investigating the irregularities in the fire department. Though the mayor invited our representative to be present at the investigation, the young man found several pad-locks on the door when he called as requested. The seances will not be over before the 20th.

The fire department investigating committee yesterday finished with the case of George Swain, charged with subordination. They have adjourned until Monday.

Yesterday morning early, a lively mill occurred at a Calhoun street saloon between a fireman and one Scarr, a butcher, in which the fire laddie got the best of it. This is the affair written up as a prize fight in a disreputable evening publication.

Issues will be made in several of the wards at the next city election growing out of the bouncing of Geo. Swain from the fire department.

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The prevailing opinion seems to be that Chief Vogel will have a tough time of it before he gets through.

Last evening an alarm of fire from box 34 called the department to the house of George Knapp in the Sixth ward. Knapp has been on a drunk, and yesterday afternoon drove his family into the street and then left himself. Shortly after his exit flames were observed issuing from the house, but were extinguished ere much damage was done, some furniture only being burned. Knapp could not be found.

There was a false alarm of fire from box 13, yesterday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock. The department had a lively run to the Peters box factory, in Bloomingdale, for their pains.

Jake Kern climbed up to the dome of the court house yesterday afternoon to take observations as to the whereabouts of the fire. Jake reached his lofty position puffing as loudly as the fire engines, and was disgusted to see them returning. Mr. Kern is a pious young man and shocked those exemplary young men. Willis Maier and Dave Spencer by emitting a very audible "damme."

George Swain is now in the hack business. We wish him luck.

On Sunday morning the barn of John Ferguson, at Ferguson Station, on the Muncie road, burned, the structure and contents consisting of horses, cows, hay, grain, feed, carriages, implements, &c., being destroyed. The loss is estimated at \$8,000, a small part of which must be borne by John Greer, who had several hundred bushels of corn stored away. Mr. Ferguson carried \$1,200 insurance.

BADLY BURNED.

TONY HEIT WRESTLES WITH FIRE AND COMES OUT SCORCHED.

Last night, just as the exercises commenced at the Third Presbyterian church, Tony Heit, who assumed the character of Santa Claus, was very badly, though happily not fatally burned. His clothing was covered very thickly with raw cotton, and as he came upon the stage he crowded too closely upon the Christmas tree, and one of the candles falling upon the inflammable material of his dress, in an instant he was wrapped in flame. Several persons rushed immediately forward and pulling the cotton from his clothing and whipping the fire, succeeded in extinguishing it. He was taken across the street to Detzer & Bro.'s drug store where it was found that he was very badly burned in the hands and on the front part of his neck, the skin in places coming off.

Everything was done to alleviate his sufferings, which were intense, and Mr. Heit can be grateful that his injuries were not very much worse than they were.

He was taken to his home in a hack, and it will be some time before Mr. Heit will have much use of his hands.

A FIREMAN MADE HAPPY.

Last night Fred Becker, jr., foreman of Vigilants No. 2, was invited from his home, at which place his father is lying low with hemorrhage, to George Strodel's, where he met a room full of his companions, and when order was restored, Mr. John F. Daly addressed him as follows:

Mr. Decker— your comrades of Vigilant engine company No. 2, recognizing your sterling honesty and integrity as a man, and your many excellent qualities of head and heart, and remembering our many years of pleasant association with you, both as a private member and as foreman of Vigilant engine company No. 2, take this opportunity of presenting to you this cane as a small mark of our respect and esteem for you as a man, and a souvenir of pleasant memories of your association with us minute men of the Fort Wayne fire department. Accept, then, this cane as a New Year's gift from your comrades of the old Vigilant, and may the coming year find our associations as gentlemen and members of the department as prolific of pleasure and good will as the year of the past. At the conclusion of his remarks, Mr. Daly handed to Mr. Becker a fine gold-headed, ebony cane, on which was engraved:

“F. BECKER,
from
THE MINUTE MEN OF
ENGINE Co. No. 2,
1882.”

Mr. Becker was unable to say anything, his surprise was so great, but his face showed the gratitude he felt at the manner in which he was held by his associates.

Sunday afternoon the members of the fire department, both paid and minute men, marched to the residence of their chief, Mr. F. B. Vogel, on West Berry street, and through Assistant Chief Engineer Strodel presented him with a beautiful perfume casket formed as a fireman's lantern. Mr. Vogel was taken completely by surprise, and tears came to his eyes as he thought that the boys should thus remember him in his time of trouble. The boys of the fire department seem by this to stand by their chief, and it evinces their feelings louder than words could express.

Both the friends and opponents of Chief Engineer Vogel were hard at work yesterday, button-holing councilmen, and this labor of love and antagonism will be vigorously kept up to-day.

The question arose last night at the investigation of Chief Vogel, as to the absence of Alexander Lavanway, an important witness for the prosecution, but the evidence of his father was very straight forward and conclusive that the boy had not been spirited away.

THE VOGEL TRIAL.

THE EXAMINATION COMMENCED — THE EVIDENCES OF THE WITNESSES — RECESS UNTIL TO-NIGHT.

Last night the council met as committee of the whole to try the charges against Chief Engineer of the Fire Department Frank B. Vogel. The entire council was present. Hon. R. C. Bell appeared for the defendant, and filed a general denial of the charges, which are that Vogel kept Dunfee on the pay rolls of the fire department for three months after Dunfee had been discharged; that one Frederick Pohlmeier was also kept on the pay rolls of the fire department after he had been discharged, and that Vogel had collected the wages of these men the same as though they had been actually employed; also, that Mr. Vogel had purchased, as chief engineer of the fire department, from Mr. Lavanway, a certain amount of oats, which he delivered at his private stable, and yet gave his voucher as an official. The charges were brought by George Swain, formerly a member of the fire department.

Mr. Colerick, the city attorney, stated that he was not ready for trial on account of the absence of a very important witness, and asked that it be continued. Mr. Hettler did not want any "skulduggery" but wanted the case to proceed. Mr. Bell stated that he was willing to admit whatever the prosecution might expect to prove by the absent witness, as claimed by the city attorney; as his (Mr. Bell's) mode of defense would be entirely by documentary evidence which would disprove the charges filed. Mr. Colerick said the law made him the prosecutor of this case and expected that the council would try the case with dignity. He could not believe that any "skulduggery" was intended and a charge of that kind was entirely out of place. Mr. Bell suggested the propriety of proceeding at once. His client was charged with a grave offense and he desired that as the case would be a lengthy one, and might take more than one night, that it would be better to get at the bottom as soon as possible. He did not want to admit, he said, anything which the absent witness might be expected to swear to, which would hereafter militate against his client. Mr. Hettler insisted that the council was here for something or for nothing, and that the case should go ahead and examine those witnesses who were present.

Mr. Wise took the floor, but was interrupted by Capt. Hettler. Mr. W. in a very cool manner sat down upon the irate captain, who winced under his reproof. A long discussion followed as to whether the case should begin, and it was concluded to proceed with the case at once.

Mr. Colerick thought that the council should be sworn in cases of malfeasance in office by a city officer, but he would leave the matter to the council. He read a decision in the New York reports to show that if a board of aldermen sit as a court and were not sworn, that a

conviction would be void.

Mr. Hettler (sotto voice) — "I'll not be sworn."

Mr. Bell read from the laws of the state of Indiana that an officer could be removed from office by a vote of a city council.

The council was not sworn and the trial commenced.

Mr. Colerick stated, in opening the case, that he expected to prove malfeasance in office on the part of defendant. He would not ask that a single blot be placed upon the defendant but he would prove that men had been kept on the pay rolls of the fire department for several months after they had left the department. And that Mr. Vogel had collected this money and put it in his pocket. He also said he expected to prove by Mr. Lavanway that oats to the amount of \$6.75 had been bought on a voucher of the city by Chief Vogel and that these oats had been carried to his private residence.

Mr. Bell, in answer to Mr. Colerick, said that his client was prepared to disprove all the charges brought against him, and that they had only been brought through malice and ill will. He said that he would prove that Mr. Pohlmeier had never drawn a penny of the city's money after he left the department. He said that he had looked into the city government affairs and found that it had not been unusual for city officials to draw money for others, and even in advance, as he would show before the case concluded, and that it probably would be a matter of economy to the city that he make the revelation. As regards the Dunfee charge, he said that Mr. Vogel could not recollect in regard to it; that perhaps the resignation had been handed to him, but if it had, he did not recollect it. Mr. Bell said that he would make the evidence so clear before he finished the case that his client would be adjudged guiltless of the charges.

Fred Becker being sworn said he had been a member of the fire department nine or ten years; was foreman of Vigilant hose company; said Pohlmeier quit the service sometime last March; eight men in my company last March; never kept a roll and of could not remember the names of the company; Mr. Pohlmeier on the first day of last January was one of my minute men; don't know whether he was on the payroll in February; I reported him for discharge, I think, in March; I reported him for neglect of duty; he neglected to meet three or four runs; I got a man to take his place; think it was John Doley; the chief kept the time of my men; can't recollect when Pohlmeier went to the last fire.

On the cross-examination a letter written by witness and dated March 8, 1881, and postmarked the 9th reporting Fred Pohlmeier for neglect of duty was fully identified by him. I had always been in the habit, as foreman, to report a man who did not do his duty, to the chief and asked for a man to be put in his place.

Fred. Pohlmeier, being sworn, stated that he had been a member of the fire department, and had drawn pay to March 9 last; never was notified of my dismissal; I scarcely ever drew my pay myself, Mr. Kiser and others used to draw it; one month my name did not appear on the payroll at all, but the chief afterward put it on; I was away for a while at work in the country, told somebody to attend to runs for me; do not know whether they did or not; I owed Mr. Vogel money and gave him an order for six months pay; I have never had a conversation with Mr. Vogel in relation to his troubles.

On the cross-examination, witness said that he drew for the month of March 1881, 2.40; I was a member of the minute company until the 8th of March; I did not know it until after that, when I came to a fire and was informed to that effect; at that time I authorized Mr. Vogel to draw my pay; I owed him for clothing; I did not tell Mr. Vogel at one time when I went away to

build a bridge, I thought there would be no fire; told Mr. Vogel that he could draw my pay to settle his claim in October; he drew my pay after that time; I was present at the Bijou fire; I was at the Bloomingdale fire.

Fred Michaels, sworn — Said that he is a foreman of a fire company in Fort Wayne; Dunfee left the service of the fire department sometime in October, 1880; the chief notified that Dunfee had left at that time; think it was either the day before or the day after the October election when I handed in the resignation to the chief. He said all right.

On the cross-examination, said — That Mr. Vogel was very busy at the time I handed in the resignation of Dunfee.

Emet Dunfee, sworn, said that while in department he drew \$10 a month for services. Drew my last pay from the city for October, 1880; notified my foreman that I resigned from the company. I never authorized any one to draw my pay from the department.

On cross-examination witness said he was not friendly or unfriendly towards Vogel. I admit that I wrote the card in the evening papers to-night saying I would take the matter to a higher tribunal. I never told Mr. Vogel to draw my pay after I left the department. I told him at one time to draw my pay but he never did so. I never thought singularly that Vogel did not draw my pay. I told him, I think, to draw my pay when I bought a suit of clothes. I bought the suit of clothes in 1878, I think. I might be mistaken about the date.

The defense admitted that in the months of September, October, November and December, 1880, and January, 1881, the defendant had drawn from the city the salary of Dunfee and appropriated it to his own (Vogel's) use.

W. W. Rockhill, city clerk, testified that Pohlmeier did not draw pay from the city for the month of October, 1880.

Frank B. Vogel being sworn, said — Emmet Dunfee was in the service of the city, and left the same in February; I drew his pay for the months of November and December, 1880, and January, 1881; never recollect that Fred. Michael gave me a letter; did not know that Dunfee had left until some time afterwards; rules are hung in the fire department; I remember of paying a fine imposed upon me of \$30 by the fire committee; Mr. Wolf notified me; they did not fine me in the Pohlmeier matter; the fine of \$30 was imposed upon me on account of the Dunfee matter; I did give Pohlmeier credit for two months being \$20 for the two months of September and October; the reason I put down two months on the October pay roll to Pohlmeier was because he had not drawn his wages for the month of September; I bought for the fire department, in May, 1881, from Lavanway, fifteen bushels of oats, amounting to \$6.75; these oats were delivered at the engine house; I gave Lavanway a voucher on the city for the amount; I think I bought oats for my own horse during the same month; I say that the fifteen bushels of oats bought from Lavanway did not go to my house; that they did not go into my bin.

On the cross-examination Mr. Vogel said: I certainly never bought any oats for the city and sent them to my house; I keep a stub for every voucher that I give on the treasurer; I buy oats for my own use from Lavanway; I drew six months of Pohlmeier's pay; he authorized me to draw it, as he owed me; I did not draw any of his money after he left the department. I left Pohlmeier's name off the September roll by mistake, and took him up for two months on the October roll. If I did not receive notice of a man's discharge or resignation, he was kept on the roll until I received such notice. I dismissed Pohlmeier as soon as I received notice from his foreman. I never recollect Fred. Michael giving me the resignation of Dunfee. The fire committee took action in the matter and fined me \$30 in consequence of Dunfee being carried

on the rolls after he had resigned, which I paid; am in the habit of making up the rolls of the full complement of men each month, the same as the previous month, unless I receive notice from the foreman that there has been a change. When the fire committee came to me in regard to the Dunfee matter, I told them that I had never heard of Dunfee's resignation; I do not remember of a mistake of this kind ever before in my experience; I know of a number of city officers who have made mistakes; I don't know whether oats have ever been taken to my house or not.

Alderman Wolf, testified, I have been a member of the fire committee ever since I have been in the council, last April the Dunfee matter was brought before the committee, the matter was looked into and the committee decided that Mr. Vogel should pay \$30 into the city treasury; the committee did not make a report of their action in the matter to the council, and never did; the money was paid, the witness, within a week; the committee never had but the one meeting; the meeting was held at Fox's parlors.

On the cross-examination witness said, we took Fred. Michael's word in the matter; the committee concluded that Mr. Vogel had done wrong and to make him more careful in the future, we fined him the \$30; I, as a member of the committee, never believed Mr. Vogel to be dishonest.

Alderman Vodermark testified I am now and was in 1881 a member of the common council, and one of the fire committee; I remember the case brought against Chief Vogel before the committee. The mayor first called my attention to the alleged irregularities of Chief Vogel. The committee called upon Fred Michael and Fred Becker, and held a conference with them on the subject of Dunfee's resignation and afterwards being carried on the pay roll; the committee resolved to allow Mr. Vogel to pay back the \$30, as it was looked upon as something that had been overlooked by Vogel, and in order to make the city books right we took this action. I am sure that Mr. Vogel was present at the meeting of the committee.

John Johnson (Scotty) testified: I recollect Pohlmeier in the department, either Daly or Berger took his place. I think Miller took Dunfee's place. On the cross-examination witness said he did not know this, simply thought so.

Luke Lavanway testified that his son Alexander has gone to Lake township on a visit; witness did not send him away; have not conversed with Mr. Vogel for three or four months; Mr. Carrier never talked to me about the Vogel matter; no one instigated my son to leave the city.

Adjourned until this evening at 7:30.

VOGEL VINDICATED.

CHIEF ENGINEER VOGEL ACQUITTED OF THE CHARGES AGAINST HIM.

SYNOPSIS OF THE TESTIMONY LAST NIGHT.

THE VOTE OF THE COUNCIL IN THE MATTER.

The interest in the Vogel investigation did not seem to wane at all last night, if the large crowd present can be taken as a criterion. Long before the time of convening, spectators began to gather, and by eight o'clock, the space outside the bar, set apart for visitors, was filled with persons who desired to see and hear the investigation. Mr. Vogel was in his place at an early hour, accompanied by his attorney, Mr. Bell, and at 8 o'clock the council was called to order by the mayor. All the members of the council answered to their names.

Herman W. Lapp was the first witness sworn and testified: I am a bridge builder and contractor on the Pittsburg, Fort Wayne & Chicago railroad; am acquainted with Fred Pohlmeier; he was in my employ from the 12th day of August to the 20th of December, of the same year, doing work at Atwood, six miles west of Warsaw, Etna Green, Kosciusko and Columbia City, during that time; he worked for me during the entire time excepting three weeks; he received pay from me for that time; my men remained at work during ten hours a day every day except rainy days or Sunday.

In the cross-examination, witness said: I do not know that Mr. Vogel knew anything of Pohlmeier's working for me.

August Frank testified — I work at the pumping house; belonged at one time to Vigilant company; can't tell when Pohlmeier quit service: Miller began in the fire service at the time Dunfee quit.

Cross-examination — I only know what I heard.

Silas A. Lavanway testified — Worked for my father in feed store in this city; Mr. Vogel ordered oats from us in May; received pay for fifteen bushels of oats in that month; took them to Mr. Vogel's residence; received pay from city treasurer.

Cross-examination — Took fifteen bushels of oats to Mr. Vogel's residence; don't know whether I took them all there at once or not; think I went twice to deliver the oats; can't say as to the matter; I drew the pay for the fifteen bushels of oats in person; do not always take the bill for oats immediately to the fire department; the oats I collected for in May were delivered in February; Mr. Wolf asked me when I got my money; (account book of Lavanway exposed to witness;) this is the account book of our store; we all keep it; I identify an entry on the book to Frank Vogel dated February 16; I never recollect delivering fifteen bushels of oats at one time to Frank Vogel's house; on May 7 I see an entry on the book of the sale of five bushels of oats to Frank Vogel; the entry is made by my father; I find no entry on the book of the sale of oats to Frank Vogel between February 16 and May, 1880; I cannot say why the fifteen bushels of oats were not delivered at one time; perhaps we were out, or something of that kind (a certificate signed by witness, and stating that the fifteen bushels of oats were delivered to the residence of

Vogel in the month of May, was shown him.) He said: That is signed by me; I perhaps did not understand what I was signing when I signed that; it was given me to sign by Phil. Lindlag and James Hoagland; I am certain I took fifteen bushels of oats to Mr. Vogel's house; do not know whether the five bushels of oats ordered May 7 are paid for or not; I have been getting clothing from Mr. Vogel for perhaps two years; no one but Lindlag and Hoagland asked me to sign the certificate; no one else was present.

Re-direct — A man named Brenner was present when I delivered the oats; he opened the door for me; when I presented the bill to Mr. Vogel he gave me a check on the treasurer; that was for the oats I put in his barn.

The city attorney here introduced the chief's pay rolls of the fire department from October, 1880, to May, 1881; also a voucher for \$6.75 paid to Lavanway for oats by the city treasurer.

The prosecution here rested.

Mr. Luke Lavanway was called and testified — My son and Harry Mahn were working for me; I do not know of fifteen bushels of oats ever going to Mr. Vogel's house, but know of that amount going to the engine house; the fifteen bushels went to the fire department February 16, 1881; were paid for May 6, 1881; the voucher dated May 6, 1881, was to pay for fifteen bushels of oats taken to the fire department.

Cross— examined — I swore last night that my son was in Lake township; if my son had ever taken fifteen bushels of oats to Vogel's house I should have known it; the entry of the order for fifteen bushels of oats of February 16th is in my son's handwriting; I have told people around the city that the "oats matter" was all right; my son quit my employ on September 6th; Mr. Carrier called on me to see me in regard to the matter; Mr. Vogel has bought nothing of me since last May; Mr. Urbine, who delivered the oats, is now in Virginia.

Re-direct — I have no interest in this case; I did not know that my son was in the city last night; I was regularly subpoenaed in this case; bills were always made out by our house to Frank B. Vogel.

Alderman Wolff testified: I never talked to young Mr. Lavanway except at the committee meeting; he told me that the certificate (spoken of above) he had signed; he told me he had delivered the oats to Vogel's house in the month of May.

Cross- examined — Have not forgotten a word of the conversation; I mean that I remember about the conversation; I have not said a word but that was the substance of the conversation; I give it to the council as I understood it.

Mr. Vogel testified: The fire department voucher book contains stubs of all vouchers paid on account of that department; I find in that book no vouchers paid to Lavanway from January 1, 1881, to May 6, 1881, then I find one for \$6.75 paid for fifteen bushels of oats.

Cross-examined — Voucher No. 296, dated February 15, 1881, for 58 bushels of oats for fire department, bought on the street; we only buy from Lavanway when we cannot buy on the street; I bought altogether eighty-nine bushels on the street on the fifteenth of February.

Re-direct — Orders on feed stores for oats were not always filled at once; it takes about twenty bushels of oats a week to supply the fire department; I could always buy on the streets because it was the cheapest manner to buy.

The defense here closed their case. Mr. Colerick, desired that counsel on either side be allowed thirty minutes each in summing up.

Mr. Muhler moved that ten minutes be allowed, and Captain Hettler thought that counsel

should have unlimited time. After some discussion, it was concluded by the council that thirty minutes be allowed to each attorney.

Mr. Colerick opened the argument for the prosecution, reviewing the testimony. He dwelt upon the evidence of Pohlmeier and Dunfee, and asserted that for nine months the man Pohlmeier had drawn his pay at \$10 a month; that the man Pohlmeier had for four months worked away from the city, yet Mr. Vogel, because Pohlmeier owed him, had kept him upon the rolls. The evidence that Mr. Vogel did not know that Pohlmeier had left the department, Mr. C. placed much stress upon. He accused Mr. Lavanway, sr., of committing perjury in swearing that his son was at Lake township. The weight of the evidence, he believed, was with young Mr. Lavanway who had sworn that the oats had been put in Vogel's bin.

Mr. Bell followed. He said he was satisfied the charges had been brought through malice on the part of Mr. Vogel's enemies. He looked upon the charges as very graves, but the case on the other side was very thin. Each company of the department had a foreman whose duty it was to report any charges. If these reports were not made to the chief, there were no changes made in the rolls. He spoke of the fact of Pohlmeier being reported on March 8, 1881, and that the pay-rolls showed that he was dropped on that day. If there was an error made, it was the error of the foreman in not reporting Pohlmeier before, as was his duty to do. As regards the oats transaction, he said; that it was absurd that Mr. Vogel should swindle the city out of \$6.75. Mr. Vogel has sworn that he never paid out of the city funds anything for oats for his own use. Mr. Vogel's oath is as good as any who have sworn to the contrary. Mr. Bell spoke of the testimony of the Lavanways and said that there was nothing in their evidence to show that fifteen bushels of oats had ever been delivered to Mr. Vogel for which the city had paid. It was a practice, he said, for parties to draw the pay of employes on the pay-rolls. The practice, he thought, might not be a right one — was not dishonest — was a custom. The committee has said that Mr. Vogel is not dishonest in the matter; if fault lies anywhere it lies with them. He stigmatized the whole matter as a mean, low outgrowth of malice.

Mr. Colerick, in closing the case, said the council could not find on the fifteen pay-rolls a single man who Mr. Vogel collected money for except in the case of the two men involved, and that no mistakes were ever made except in the cases of these two men whose pay had been collected by Vogel; he called to the attention of the council the fact that the fifteen bushels of oats bought from Lavanway were bought when over one hundred bushels of oats were on hand in the department; he censured the fire committee for taking the \$30 in the Dunfee matter; the committee, he said, were not sitting as a council; they had not right to do that. Why had Vogel a right, Mr. Colerick said, to employ seventeen men on the pay rolls when the city allowed him but sixteen?

Both attorneys' speeches were quite exhaustive, and at their conclusion it was decided that the vote should be viva voce, that being in accordance with the law on the subject.

The clerk then read the specifications in order, and the council voted on each separately.

The first specification, the Dunfee matter, resulted in the following vote; Guilty — Chittenden, Vordermark, Wise, Yergens. — 4. Not guilty — Boltz, Brames, Doehrman, Fox, Hamilton, Hettler, Mohr, Muhler, Pape, Reese, Reidmiller, Welch, Wessell, Wolf, — 14.

On the second specification, the Pohlmeier charges, the vote stood: Guilty — Boltz, Hamilton, Vordermark, Wise, Yergens.— 5. Not guilty— Brames, Chittenden, Doehrman, Fox, Hettler, Mohr, Muhler, Pape, Reese, Reidmiller, Welch, Wessel, Wolf.— 13.

On the third specification, charging Vogel with buying \$6.75 worth of oats, removing

them to his own house, and afterwards allowing the city to pay for them, the vote stood: Guilty—Boltz, Yergens— 2; Not guilty — Brames, Chittenden, Doehman, Fox, Hamilton, Hettler, Mohr, Muhler, Pape, Reese, Reidmiller, Vordermark, Welch, Wessel, Wise, Wolff — 16.

By this vote the charge and specifications being not sustained, the mayor announced that the accused was fully discharged in the matter.

FORT WAYNE DAILY GAZETTE

Sunday

01/08/1882

Page 6, Col. 5.

A TOTAL LOSS.

THAT WAS THE RESULT OF A FIRE AT NEW HAVEN, YESTERDAY
MORNING — HARTZELL'S MILL ENTIRELY DESTROYED.

Yesterday morning, between 5 and 6 o'clock, Mr. Job Fisher, who keeps a meat market at New Haven, while on his way to his store, discovered flames emerging from the north part of the engine room of the flouring mill of E. & A. M. Hartzell, at that place. He immediately gave the alarm and the bells of the village were rung, but owing to the fact of the building being old, it was entirely consumed before the flames could be checked. The fire department did not arrive on the ground until some twenty minutes after the alarm was given, owing probably to the fact that there is no particular discipline and there being so few fires in the berg it was totally unlooked for. Two streams were thrown upon the fire as quickly as circumstances would allow, and the firemen, (volunteers) did all in their power, but it was too late; and what the night before represented a large and enterprising business, in a very short time was reduced to a mass of smoking ruins. The firm have kept no watchman, and probably the fire gained considerable headway before it was first discovered by Mr. Fisher.

The building, which was entirely of wood, was built in 1858, by Amasa, Volney and John Powers and used by them for milling purposes for many years, and was the first mill built in the village. It was ultimately sold to the Messrs. Hartzell, who have been doing a good business there by their enterprise and business ability.

The loss on stock and building amounted to \$8,000, upon which there is no insurance. The stock, fortunately, was very light, the roads having been so very bad that no grain of any amount had accumulated; otherwise the loss would have been much greater. The fire is supposed to have been caused by spontaneous combustion in the sawdust packing around the pumps in the engine room.

The citizens of New Haven express great sympathy for these young men who have lost everything, and there was a movement inaugurated yesterday by which a subscription would be raised for their relief.

Last night the alarm from box No. 52 was caused by the explosion of a lamp in the office of Dr. Depler, over Hiltz saddlery store, on East Columbia street. The doctor, becoming frightened at the explosion, wrapped a quilt about the lamp and threw it into the street. The flameable material was soon consumed with no damage.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Few of our citizens realize the present high state of discipline and equipment of our city fire department. A visitor, on entering, will find three finely equipped engines, all in perfect readiness, at a moment's warning to be out on duty; then aside from these are two or three hose carts with several hundred feet of hose, and a hook and ladder wagon. After surveying the engine rooms yesterday, a reporter entered the stable where he found eleven very fine horses. One team, which is composed of two large dapple grays, commands a very large price and for which \$1,200 has been refused.

The arrangements in the stable are such that when the alarm of fire is given, even by a signal miles away, the horses are unhitched, the doors fly open, and all made ready for the animals to rush out, which they do, and take their places at the engine or hose-cart, as the case may be. This is all done by the means of electricity. The well trained animals seem to know as well the signal of fire as the keepers. It seems by the present systematical arrangement no fire could get under much headway ere the extinguishers would be upon the ground and at work.

The hook and ladder truck capsized as it was leaving the engine house, on the occasion of the Vogel fire Sunday, and the ladders had to be carried to the fire by hand.

FIRE IN BLOOMINGDALE.

Yesterday afternoon at about half past two a telephone message was received at F. B. Vogel's store that a house was on fire in Bloomingdale. The clerk immediately turned in the alarm, to which the department responded and found it to be a smoke house belonging to John C. Wagner, living at 35 North Calhoun street. The fire was quickly extinguished and the damage was slight.

The hose cart became stuck in the mud at Lewis street yesterday while going to the fire.

Fire.— The alarm of fire at half past one yesterday was occasioned by the burning of the boarding and eating house of Frank Nabe, and the Pittsburg telegraph station at the new yards. They were both totally destroyed.

The eating house is a three story building and the station a wooden shed. Loss, about \$5,000.

A PAIR OF FIRES.

THE GROCERY STORE OF AMOS WALTERS & CO. DAMAGED TO THE
AMOUNT OF \$10,000.

THE BLOOMINGDALE MILLS ENTIRELY CONSUMED.

ORIGIN OF THE FIRES SUPPOSED TO BE INCENDIARY.

About half past eleven o'clock last night a gentleman on Calhoun street discovered smoke coming from the rear of No. 108 Calhoun street. He immediately ran to the headquarters of the fire department, and the alarm was turned in. It was found that the smoke came from the rear portion of the building, and to this spot the fire department, who were very soon on the ground, directed their attention. A cry went up from the crowd that several barrels of kerosene were stocked there and fearing a recurrence of the explosion which took place in the Boltz grocery some ten years ago, they fell back. Chief Engineer Vogel broke open the back door and threw out the barrels of coal oil which he found there, and directed a stream of water thrown upon the fire which seemed to be centered at that place. Immediately after a black smoke was discovered coming from the second floor, occupied by Dr. J. D. Coyle, dentist, and a stream was directed to the second story. The fire was in a very short time gotten under control, but not until considerable damage was done. The building is owned by Dr. Schmitz and occupied below as a grocery store by Amos Walters & Co., and in the second story by Dr. J. D. Coyle dentist.

The firm of A. Walters & Co., state that their damages are at least \$1,000, there being a large stock of teas and canned goods in the store room over their store. This is fully covered by insurance in the Phenix, of Brooklyn, N. Y., and the Howard, of New York city. Dr. Coyle's loss is about \$400 and unfortunately he has no insurance. The losses to the building, we are informed, is entirely covered by insurance.

The origin of the fire is undoubtedly incendiary, as the back door of the building showed marks of the insertion of an instrument by which it was pried open, as also the window on the alley was found to be wide open. The money drawer showed evidences of having been tampered with and small change was found scattered on the floor behind the desk. Mr. Vogel says that when he first entered the rear end of the store he found fire on the floor at the side of a kerosene oil barrel as also on the second floor. Someone had evidently entered the store, rifled the money drawer and then set fire to the premises.

Before the fire department had scarcely reeled their hose there was another alarm sounded, and the word went from mouth to mouth that the Bloomingdale mills were on fire. A reporter of the Gazette hastened to the scene and found that it was too true, and the blaze from the fire shown out for blocks, lighting up the streets, making it seem almost like noonday.

The fire was discovered by William Henzel, (Weinerwurst Bill) who gave the alarm immediately. When the department arrived the entire building was in flames and perfectly past hope.

Mr. McQuiston, one of the partners in the business states that he and his partner, Mr. Pfeiffer, left the mill between 9 & 10 o'clock and at that time there were no evidences of fire about the premises. He states that he is always very careful before leaving at night to visit every part of the building to see if there is any fire, and that on last night he had taken all these precautions as usual. He says that when he first discovered the fire it was coming from the lower story, immediately under the sink box. The entire building with its contents were consumed, and quite a number of the books of the firm, for which there was no room in the safe, were destroyed.

The building, which, with machinery, is valued at about \$20,000, was built in 1865, and was owned by C. F. Pfeiffer & Co. The loss is not much more than half covered by insurance, there being \$12,000 on the building and \$4,000 on the stock. There were some three or four hundred barrels of flour and several hundred bushels of wheat and feed in the mill, all of which is a total loss.

The origin of the fire is entirely unknown, but it is supposed to be incendiary. Messrs. C. F. Pfeiffer & Co., state that they will immediately rebuild the mill.

The fire department are loud in their praise of Mrs. Strodel, of Bloomingdale, for her kindness in furnishing them coffee yesterday morning after the fire

The alarm of fire from box 23 last night was occasioned by the burning of some clothing in the stairway of the frame building occupied by Joseph Ankenbruck, No. 172 east Washington street. The department turned out, but the fire was quickly extinguished, without a stream being put on it. Damage, probably about \$5.00.

A SMALL BLAZE.

The alarm from box 52 at 9 o'clock last night was caused by an incipient blaze being discovered in Kunkle's safety valve works, a three story brick building corner of Barr and Wayne streets. The fire originated in the ceiling over the boiler and destroyed a portion of the floor above as well as damaging to an extent the ceiling. It was extinguished with little difficulty and with comparatively small loss — about a hundred dollars all told. Though had it not been discovered as soon as it was it is more than probable that the entire structure would have been destroyed.

CALLED AWAY.

Frederick Becker, one of the oldest inhabitants of Fort Wayne, died last night at his residence, No. 11 East Washington street. The deceased was about sixty-five years of age and has resided in this city for the past forty years. He has been suffering since December with an attack of lung fever which finally overcame him. The announcement of the funeral will be made to-morrow.

The funeral of the late Frederick Becker will take place this afternoon. The fire department will attend.

The roof of the Pittsburg carpenter shop caught fire early yesterday morning, caused by a spark from an engine, which necessitated the turning in of an alarm from box 42. The blaze was extinguished with but little trouble and damage.

The fire department were called out shortly before noon yesterday by a fire being discovered in a barn owned by C. A. Hoffman at 185 Calhoun street. The loss amounted to about \$20 which is covered by insurance.

The alarm of fire at noon yesterday was caused by a blaze in the building 199 Lafayette street, owned by Bartlett & Co., and occupied as a grocery. The roof was almost totally destroyed, involving a loss of a couple of hundred of dollars.

CITY COUNCIL.

A petition signed by a number of residents of the Seventh ward was read requesting that better provisions be made against fire in their ward. The petition also requested that one thousand feet of hose be distributed in their ward. Alderman Mohr thought the fire department should not be concentrated in one place but should be placed at various places. He considered the present an excellent opportunity to add additional protection to the city and therefore made a motion that the matter be referred to the committee on fire department with instructions to report means to improve the protection against fire at the next session of the council, which was carried.

Frank Vogel, it is said, will not be a candidate for chief engineer of the fire department.

A FIRE BUG.

THE BLAZE LAST NIGHT SUPPOSED TO BE THE WORK OF AN INCENDIARY.

The fire department were called out last night at about 10 o'clock in response to an alarm sent in caused by flames being discovered in the barn of Charles Fink the undertaker, of Maiden Lane. The barn is in the alley, running between Berry and Main streets and the situation of the flames strongly indicated that they had been the work of an incendiary. The barn contained an old horse which the department dragged out by the tail, the animal being old with age and almost dead with fright. The loss will be nominal and an investigation will be made to ascertain whether or not the place was set on fire.

CITY COUNCIL.

The nominations were then made for chief of fire department.

Mr. Chittenden nominated Hugh M. Diehl, and said he was a candidate for that position and no other, and that it was a piece of skulduggery to elect another man for chief of the fire department, and Mr. Diehl will not qualify.

Mr. Hettler — "When a man is elected to an office that settles it."

The vote for chief of fire department resulted as follows: Diehl, 3; Hilbrecht, 14. Mr. Hilbrecht was declared elected.

Henry Hilbrecht filed his bond for \$2,000 yesterday, and will assume the duties of chief of the fire department immediately. Frank Vogel and J. G. Strodel are his vouchers.

CITY COUNCIL.

The resolution to allow Michael Connors, driver of a city fire engine, an increase of \$10 per month salary, was again referred to the committee on finance.

A NARROW ESCAPE.

A six year old child of Michael Connors, one of the fire engineers, had a narrow escape at dinner yesterday from choking to death. The little one managed to get a large piece of meat lodged in her throat in some manner and was unable to displace it. She was taken to Woodworth's drug store and a physician sent for. Blood issued from the little one's nostrils and mouth, and the face was becoming quite blue when, by a great effort, she coughed the meat up, just as the doctor arrived.

A small blaze at 63 Water street, a house occupied by Charles Coop, called the department out Tuesday. Their services, however, were not required, the blaze only damaging about \$25 worth of property.

THE CHAMPION GAME.

THE FAMOUS CONTEST ON THE DIAMOND FIELD BETWEEN THE CITY
AND COUNTY OFFICIALS.

THE ONLY OFFICIAL AND AUTHENTIC REPORT.

Two or three hundred people gathered at the fair grounds Monday afternoon to witness the game of the season, namely, the county nine against the city nine.

Considerable impatience was manifested by the spectators at the delay in getting the Trojans to work; but when they consider that the ball field was a miniature lake, and the boys not much used to water, they will be forgiven. After building the ground above high water mark, Captain Falker, of the city nine, was observed trying to borrow a quarter or half dollar from the players, to flip up for choice of ins or outs, a scheme that wouldn't work, for the reason that much money couldn't be found among them on a week's notice. This was another disappointment, but was overcome by a proposition to draw cuts for choice; but just as the straws were being prepared, one of the boys found a Bungtown copper that was greeted with considerable applause and satisfaction. Frank did the flipping while Jones for the county nine called the turn, and as did it he was promptly paid two for one and sent the city nine to bat. To chronicle the haps and mishaps of this game would require more time than we can spare, but suffice it to say that Henry Colerick, short stop for the city nine, made without question the shortest stop ever made by any one in this or any other country. He differed with Umpire Foote about some ruling made, and "talked back" but was quickly "sat on" by the audience shouting "kicker," "Guty," etc. Sheriff Cosgrove, of the county nine having had a sad experience catching fly balls in his mouth, tried to catch them with his feet, but with no better success and he now thinks that we are not all ball players. Poor Nelson had the undivided sympathy of the entire crowd. Running the base his little short legs made such poor time that Umpire Foote thought he was walking and put him out twice therefor before he discovered that he was doing his level best. Rockhill, of the city nine, made two fly catches in left field that would have done credit to a professional player.

Captain Diehl, of the police force, evidently was raised on "hot ball" or "ante over," and was a "leedle out" on the noble game.

Dawson, of the county nine, scored four runs during the game, and his sneak from third to the home plate, in the last inning, was a very fine effort.

Schroeder, pitcher for the city nine, seemed to have "somethin' agin" Hance, of the county nine, or else he was trying to kill flies on his body, for he everlastingly pounded him wite the ball.

Frank Mommer, catcher for the county boys, had a nail torn from his thumb early in the game, and had to retire from that position which was a great loss to his side. Frank Webber, of the city's, was perhaps the best player of them all and Chief Hilbrecht, of the same, the best batter. The city boys finally won by a score of nineteen to fifteen for county. Attorney Robinson acted as scorer

The fire boys give very pleasant impromptu concerts occasionally in front of the engine house.

THE CITY IN TROUBLE.

PROBABILITY OF THE FIRE ENGINE AND HORSES BEING

LEVIED ON TO-DAY TO SATISFY A JUDGMENT.

A short time ago, as every citizen and tax-payer remembers, there was a just judgment rendered against the city of Fort Wayne of \$5,000 in the suit brought by Harry C. Hanna for the killing of his father by the falling of the Clinton street bridge. When the judgment was rendered the city council ordered the case to be appealed to the supreme court of the state. By some oversight the proper bond was not filed or the necessary steps taken to perfect the appeal. Yesterday morning Mr. Hanna applied for and had an execution issued in due form against the city and carries it in his pocket. Late last evening a reporter tried to see Mr. Hanna, but without success, but it was learned on good authority that to-day the execution will be placed in the hands of Sheriff Cosgrove, who will attach and take possession of the steam fire engines of the city with the horses and patrol wagons unless the council should take steps to settle the matter or perfect the appeal. As the case now stands the matter looks very dark for the city, and some speedy adjustment of the matter should be made.

An alarm of fire from the premises of Mrs. Eckert, corner Barr and Wayne streets, last evening at 7:30 o'clock called out the department for the first time in six weeks. Some straw beds had been emptied on the floor of two rooms and the children set fire to the refuse. Damages from fire and water about \$50.

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A HERO.

A SICKENING CATASTROPHE AVERTED BY THE HEROISM OF THE DRIVER OF VIGILANT HOSE CART NO. 2.

Last evening when the alarm of fire was sounded for the frame house near the safety valve works, corner of East Wayne and Barr streets, the horses at once sprang to their positions. The big bay team that pulls Vigilant hose cart No. 2 were very fiery and eager to go. When the driver, Florence Berger, came to the side of the cart to take his seat they broke away and started at a gallop out of the door and on to the street before he could mount the cart. Darting to their side as the runaway team turned north on court street, Berger caught the nearest horse by the bit and then commenced a fierce struggle for the mastery. After a desperate effort in which he several times narrowly escaped being flung under the horses hoofs he turned them into the ally by the post office and brought them to a stop, but not before his right arm was fearfully bruised and nearly broken, and other portions of his body knocked black and blue. This heroic act of Berger, and his nerve and pluck in hanging on to the runaway team, undoubtedly averted one of the most terrible catastrophies that Fort Wayne has ever witnessed. At the time Court street all north of the post office alley was filled with a crowd of men and children listening to the concert of the Wizard oil troop, and if the big team and heavy hose cart had plunged through the surging mass of humanity the results would have been horrible. If ever man deserved a gold medal Florence Berger does, and our citizens should give him one. On their course the horses had already knocked down but fortunately only slightly injured a boy named Frank Wells, fourteen years old. After Berger stopped the horses another driver came and they at once proceeded to the fire. Dr. Hetrick was called and pronounced Berger's injuries rather serious.

The team in their exit from the engine house burst through the heavy chain that hangs across the entrance. Chief of Police Diehl and Charlie Ross rendered Berger valuable assistance in finally bringing the horses to a stand still.

A BIG BLAZE.

TWENTY-THREE BUSINESS HOUSES IN DECATUR DESTROYED BY FIRE

A STEAM FIRE ENGINE SENT FROM THIS CITY, LOSS OVER \$40,000.

On Sunday evening at eight o'clock Chief of the Fire Department Hilbrecht received a telegram from Decatur stating that a terrible fire was raging there that promised to destroy the entire town and asking for help. The mayor consented to the dispatch of an engine; and Supt. O'Rourke and Master of Transportation Hunter, of the G. R. & I. R. R., soon had a special train ready, consisting of a flat car and passenger coach. Arriving at Decatur the fire was found to be on the east side of the main street of the town and in the heart of the business portion, having in an hour and a half consumed twenty three wooden buildings that have long been a regular fire trap and a disgrace to the town. The engine sent from Fort Wayne was not unloaded when it arrived, as the fire was under control and the train soon returned. The fire, like the Chicago conflagration, started from the explosion of a kerosene lamp. The losses are as follows:

Millen Burns, saddlery, owned by Jesse Niblick; Irvin's bakery, owned by Frank Miese; Mrs. A. J. Hill, millinery goods, owned by Adam Miller; Henry Beberich, saloon, owned by John Bogart; John Borden, saddlery, Frank Tilbury, ice cream and confectionary saloon, both owned by Jonathan Houston; Bottenberg & Blossom's meat market, Mrs. C. E. Albers & Son, grocery, both owned by John Meibers; John Brock, tin shop; Barkley & Steele, meat market, owned by Sylvester Spangler; Whipple & Rosse, barber shop, owned by Dr. T. T. Dorwin; Joseph Colchen, barber shop, John Kleinhenz, saloon, both owned by Mrs. John Tonnelier; Peter Forbing, saloon; Shafer Bros., hardware; Chas. Wiebler, meat market; J. W. Place, confectionery; John B. Miller, barber shop; Jacob Martin, bakery; all owned by George Lucky. A frame stable on Monroe street, belonging to Dr. Wm. Trout, and valued at \$500, also burned. The cornice of the Odd Fellows' building opposite was destroyed, as well as several expensive plate glass windows of stores. The stave factory of J. E. McKendry, about a quarter of a mile distant, caught fire six times. Four hundred dollars' worth of plate glass in the building occupied by the Adams county bank and Niblack, Crawford & Co., dry goods, was cracked by the intense heat. About a thousand dollars' worth of glass in buildings on the west side of Second street was destroyed.

The total loss is estimated to be fully \$40,000. The only insurance is \$1,450, as follows: Millen Burns, \$450; F. W. Miese, \$500; Jacob Martin, \$500.

The burned district will at once be rebuilt with fine brick buildings and on the whole the fire will be a decided advantage to Decatur.

One of the horses of the fire department, when the alarm was sounded last night was so badly tangled up in his harness that he delayed the engine getting out for several minutes.

ANOTHER FIRE.

Last night at 12:30 o'clock the fire department was called out for the second time. The alarm was turned in by Officer Pat Connors and was caused by the blaze in the vacant building in the rear of the Aveline house, and owned by Root & Co. It was speedily put out, and as the house, a one-story frame, has been vacant for over a week, it was clearly a case of incendiarism. The girls in the Aveline house, right adjoining it, were the first to see the blaze, and they fairly rent the air with their shrieks. When the fire bell began to clang and the air was ruddy with the blaze, several of the guests of the hotel, in light and airy attire, came down to the office and made the night clerk blush by their frantic dancing around.

The chronic case of fire that appears to exist in the old deserted building on Barr street, east side market space, broke out again last evening at 8 o'clock, and called out the fire department, which speedily quenched it. They used the axe very freely, and the old house is now pretty thoroughly gutted.

The members of the Alert Hook and Ladder company, composed of the best citizens of Fort Wayne, will give an excursion to St. Louis and Chicago, leaving here October 2, at 12 o'clock. Parties wanting to join the excursion can get tickets and information from the committee, which is composed of Joseph Momer, T. B. Hedekin, L. T. Bourie and A. H. Carrier. Round trip tickets will cost ten dollars.

Mason Long has purchased the big grey team of the fire department for \$600. He will use it to take his temperance workers through the country. He opens at New Haven Saturday evening.

There were two mysterious false fire alarms last evening, the first that have occurred under Chief Hilbrecht. They were turned in from no box, and the whole proceeding is altogether curious.

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SAD ACCIDENT.

Yesterday at 1:20 p.m. Mr. George Thieme, of the fire department, received the following telegram:

SHIDELER, Ind., September 28.

George Thieme, Fire Department.

Be at the depot at five o'clock without fail. Andy is hurt. Don't tell folks. Have a wagon to take him.

C. H. Miller.

No further particulars were given, and, as may be imagined, he was in a state of serious alarm and apprehension. He was promptly at the depot and found his brother Andy as he had believed, very seriously injured, and had him carefully conveyed to their home at 176 Broadway and summoned Dr. Stemen. The doctor on his arrival found the left arm so badly crushed that he amputated it just below the elbow, and the right arm and left thigh fractured. The particulars of the accident as gleaned by a reporter from the wounded man are as follows: He is a brakeman on the local freight train on the Muncie road, and yesterday at the above station he went between two cars to make a coupling slipped and fell. The train just then backed down and one car and the caboose passed over him. He is a young man twenty-one years old, of a strong constitution, and is in a fair way to recover.

The paint shop of A. S. Allen, in Becks' addition, was destroyed by fire yesterday morning. Loss, \$150; no insurance.

George Theime, and several others of the fire brigade, went down the St. Mary's river yesterday morning, and in three hours returned with a fine string of pickerel, one of which weighed three and a half pounds.

Why it is that the headquarters of our fire department have never been supplied with a telephone is a mystery. The department has long desired it, and we see no reason why they should not be so supplied, as it is destined to prove inestimable value to any property within the city limits. Let the want be supplied.

The funeral of John Phillips will occur Wednesday morning at 9:00 from his residence, 58 West Main street. All friends are invited to attend without further notice.

Mr. John Phillips, son of the late Barney Phillips, died of consumption at 8 o'clock Sunday morning. The funeral will take place from his residence, 85 West Main street, at 9 o'clock Wednesday morning, and from the Cathedral at 9:30. He leaves a wife and one child. The Alert Hook and Ladder Company will attend in a body.

THE FUNERAL OF JOHN PHILLIPS.

Alert Hook and Ladder Company held a meeting last evening and passed a resolution to attend the funeral of the late John J. Phillips tomorrow morning in a body and take charge of the remains. The pall bearers will be C. F. Eme, R. Hanson, T. B. Hedekin, James M. Kane, Charles McCulloch and Louis Zollinger.

A. H. Carier,
Sec'y Alert Hook & Ladder Co.

(Sentinel and News please copy.)

The funeral of the late John Phillips will take place to-day from his late residence. Services will be held at the Cathedral between 8 and 9 o'clock. The interment will be in the Catholic cemetery northeast of the city. The Alert Hook and Ladder company will attend in a body.

The funeral of the late John J. Phillips, yesterday, was largely attended and the procession headed by the city band and Alert Hook and Ladder company, was an imposing one.

PAPER UNKNOWN

11/18/1882

* Fire — Building owned by D. C. Diffendorfer, Springer General Store in Arcola.

ALERT HALL, Nov. 15, 1882.

Death ends our pilgrimage on earth, before entering on eternity, where we hope to all meet again.

Whereas, It has pleased Almighty God, our Supreme ruler, to take from our midst our truly beloved friend and brother fireman, John Phillips.

Resolved, That by the much regretted departure of our worthy friend and associate, whose noble heart and hand was always with us, we lose one of the truest and most sociable companions.

Resolved, That we deeply and sincerely sympathize with the widow and child of our deceased friend, who are called upon to mourn the loss of a dear and kind husband and father.

Resolved, That we humbly pray and implore our Lord the father of all on earth to bestow His blessings on the afflicted family.

Resolved, That our sincere thanks are tendered to the Right Reverend Joseph Dwenger, bishop of the diocese of Fort Wayne for his kindness and courtesies extended to our company. Also to the chief engineer of the fire department and his force for their kind response to our call to participate with us in performing our sad duty.

Resolved, That the above resolution be published in the Fort Wayne Sentinel, Gazette, and Daily News, and a copy of the same be presented to the family of our deceased brother.

T. B. Hedekin,
L. T. Bourie,
A. Wolf,
A. H. Carier,
Committee.

The fire yesterday was a barn at No. 151 Broadway belonging to Geo. Omisten, who lives about three miles from the city. It was occupied by S. A. Aurentz, the grocer, who saved his horse which was in the building. Loss on building and contents about \$100.

The fire department turned out yesterday afternoon on a false alarm. A disgusting bum boarded the hose cart as it was returning to the engine house, and rode for short a distance greatly to the annoyance of the fire boys.

George Thieme yesterday started to kill a rat at the engine house when the rodent ran up his trousers leg and made it very lively for him for awhile

DEATH OF CON. SHENK.

This well known citizen died early yesterday morning, passing quietly away, his wife not knowing he was in danger until she went to call him at 5 o'clock and found him cold in death. His disease was congestion of the bowels, and his age forty-five. He leaves a wife and a son, aged nineteen, in business at Delphos, Ohio, and a daughter, Kitty, aged twenty-five. Marshal Frank Falker is an adopted son. The remains will be taken to Delphos for burial, which place is Mr. Shenk's old home.

George Thieme, driver of the Zollinger engine, while assisting the hose boys at the fire last night, was struck on the head by a falling brick and received quite a severe scalp wound.

THE FIRST IN FLAMES.

THE FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH ENTIRELY DESTROYED BY FIRE.

TOO MUCH FIRE IN THE FURNACE THE CAUSE — INSURED FOR \$12,500.

A NEW EDIFICE TO BE BUILT ON THE OLD SITE AT ONCE.

NOTES AND INCIDENTS.

Last evening about half-past six o'clock the fire alarm sounded from box 52, which is at the engine house, and a few minutes later the city was startled by the glare of flames that made most of the business men think their stores were burning, but soon the glare of fire above the roof of the First Presbyterian church told the edifice doomed to destruction. The firemen only a block away, in a minute had hose attached to the hydrants and turned on the water, but owing to some fatal defect in the water works or some negligence at the pumping engines there was not force enough to throw a stream twenty feet high, and no effective effort was made to check the fire until the steamers were brought out and commenced playing on the now blazing building. Once under headway, the flames spread very rapidly and soon the main auditorium was one mass of fire, while fiery tongues of flame writhed and twisted up through the roof and wrapped themselves about the spire as if the imps of evil were laughing in glee at the downfall of God's temple. Soon the bell that had so long and faithfully called the worshippers to the sanctuary, fell with a terrific boom and crashed through the floor. At this time the flames were darting from every window, and the entire roof was in a blaze, while the spire stood out against the black sky like a finger of fire, still pointing heavenward and only yielding and toppling into the fiery gulf below, when all was lost, and sending skyward a shower of glittering sparks. The slight breeze that blew carried the burning embers over toward the Academy of Music and set the roof of that building on fire in five different places. A little later the big organ fell with a crash, the roof fell in and the First Presbyterian church, for so many years a land mark of the city was a ruin. As the steeple fell some of the timbers in the shape of a cross caught in a tree and hung there a blazing emblem of the faith whose place of worship had just been laid low. It was an incident worthy the pen of a poet. When the fire first broke out several persons rushed into the basement and were busy carrying out the benches, cushions and books until driven out by Marshal Falker just in time to escape the falling roof. Nothing was saved except a few hymn books, bibles and benches. Janitor Shoemaker, who has had charge of the church for nearly a quarter of a century says that the fire started by being communicated from the furnace in the basement to the floor, as he had just built a hot fire in order to have the church thoroughly warm for to-day's services. The church was insured as follows in Mr. Hayden's agency: \$10,000 on the building and furniture, equally divided between the National Watertown and Merchants and Traders' companies, all of New York, and \$2,500 on the big pipe organ, in the Watertown, of New York, making \$12,500 in all.

HISTORIC.

The edifice that burned last night was erected in 1845, the corner stone being laid with appropriate ceremonies in October of that year. Rev. H. S. Dickson was the pastor. In the fall of 1847, Mr. Dickson having resigned the pastorate, Rev. Lowman P. Hawes supplied the pulpit for about six months. In August, 1848, Rev. J. G. Riheldaffer, then of the graduating class of Princeton seminary, accepted a call and was installed as pastor, continuing in that relation until he resigned in 1851. In November, 1851, Rev. Jonathan Edwards, D. D., was installed as pastor. He resigned in July 1855, to accept the presidency of Hanover college, and was succeeded by Rev. John M. Lowrie, D. D., who was installed in November, 1856. During the vacancy before the settlement of Dr. Lowrie, Rev. J. H. Burns supplied the pulpit for a few months. The pastorate of Rev. Dr. Lowrie continued to the time of his death, September 26, 1867. In March, 1868, Rev. Thomas H. Skinner, D. D., accepted the call of this congregation. Dr. S. resigned September 18, 1871, to accept a call to the Second Presbyterian church, of Cincinnati. February 5, 1872, Rev. D. W. Moffat, then a pastor at Georgetown, D. C. accepted a call to this church. This is the ninth year of his pastorate.

NOTES.

The biggest crowd witnessed the fire of any that ever occurred in this city.

The congregation meets to-morrow to consult relative to building a new church.

Interviews with a number of the congregation show them in favor of rebuilding on the present site.

The trees are very little damaged. They were planted by Hon. Jesse L. Williams in 1845, who is still very proud of them.

Col. John A Scott offered the Academy for the use of the congregation to-day, and Trinity Episcopal church offered their fine edifice.

It cost \$5,000 per year to run the church. Many people urge that the site be sold to the government for a postoffice building. Mr. F. J. Hayden, Pliny Hoagland and others, are in favor of consolidating the three Presbyterian churches and selling two of the sites and erecting one grand \$100,000 church.

Hon. J. L. Williams telegraphed the fire to all the former pastors of the church now living.

Florence Boerger, the fireman found drunk while on duty at the First Presbyterian church fire, was last evening fined \$25 by the fire committee. It will be deducted from his pay.

A NARROW ESCAPE.

THE RESIDENCE OF MR. MART BULGER ON FIRE.

TIMELY DISCOVERY SAVES IT WITH TRIFLING LOSS.

At eight o'clock last evening an alarm from box No. 31 called the fire department to the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Mart Bulger, 140 West Berry street where they arrived in time to prevent a disastrous conflagration. Earlier in the evening Mrs. Bulger, Mrs. Harkersley and Mrs. McDonald were sitting in the parlor, when they noticed a smell as of burning wood. Opening the door into the dining room, they found it full of stifling smoke, with flames creeping up through the floor. They at once gave the alarm, fortunately, in time to prevent the destruction of the house. The flames started by overheating of the furnace, a red hot flue setting fire to the floor over the cellar. The damage to the house, which belongs to Mr. John Bass, is probably \$1,000, covered by \$5,000 insurance in Sid Lumbard's agency. The carpets, piano and furniture on the first floor are damaged also to the extent of \$700 or \$800, which Mr. Bulger has fully covered by insurance. Mrs. Bulger was entirely overcome by the excitement and fainted three times. Mr. Bob Fisher, living opposite, done yeoman's service subduing the flames and saving the furniture. Mr. John Bass appreciated the prompt and efficient of the firemen and presented Chief Hilbrecht with a sum of money to "set 'em up" to the boys, which was done.

Chief Hilbrecht, of the fire department, was presented on New Year's day by the firemen, with a costly silver water set. The chief made a neat speech in reply.

The alarm of fire yesterday afternoon was caused by the burning out of a chimney at the residence of Mr. McLane on Superior street. There was a trifling damage by fire.

A PLEASANT TIME.

Last evening the boys of the fire department, some twenty-three in number, and as fine a looking body of men as can be found accepted an invitation from Chief Hilbrecht to supper. Shortly after 8 o'clock they filed out of the engine house and marched to the residence. The Gazette representative was most pleasantly looked after by Mr. John Daly and joined the throng. Arrived at the house of Mr. Hilbrecht the party was received into the parlor where liquid refreshments were served by the chief, assisted by Mr. Asa Lewis. During this time Charley Sheldon, foreman of No. 2, and Mr. Lon Bourie Played the organ and Otto Smenner and Flora Boerger sang several stirring songs. After this the guests were invited into the dining room where an elegant repast was served, to which all did ample justice.

It was one of the most pleasant occasions that ever occurred in the fire department, and shows the warm feeling of respect and cordiality that exists between Chief Hilbrecht and his men.

CITY COUNCIL.

A communication was read from Chief Hilbrecht, requesting that a telephone be placed in the engine house for the use of the fire department.

George Thieme, of the fire department left for Warsaw this morning on a business trip. He will return tonight.

The residence of Mr. Peter Morganthaler came near burning Sunday afternoon. His little son was playing with matches, &c: set the carpet in an upper room on fire. Damages, \$100.

Christ Rohyans, driver of the hose cart, was thrown off while going to the fire, yesterday morning, by a sudden turn at the corner of Jefferson and Calhoun streets, and his left knee quite badly hurt.

Last evening, about ten o'clock, an alarm of fire called the department to the office of the United States express company on Main street. Some of the employes had evidently been smoking in the rear of the office and thrown down a lighted cigar stub, which ignited a partition enclosing a rear room, the flames reaching up to the ceiling. They were extinguished with little damage to the office, but the packages awaiting shipment and delivery were drenched with water. Mrs. Fox across the way, first discovered the fire and gave the alarm. The loss is covered by insurance.

THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

As there is considerable agitation favoring a distribution of the fire department, we will suggest to the city council to pause and consider well before taking such a step. It is an easy matter to create an additional expense. There are always enough fellows who want a place and are not particular who pays the bills. Grand Rapids made the experiment of distributing her fire department, and it increased the annual expense of their department from \$18,000 to \$40,000. Logansport made similar experiment, and the expense increased from \$8,000 per annum to \$30,000. Under our present arrangement our fire department costs us \$15,000, that is the appropriation for the present year, and it is thought there will be a surplus of at least \$1,000 at the close of the year. Let the council go into this project of distribution and it will cost at least \$40,000 to make necessary arrangements in the shape of houses, additional apparatus, and the other appliances necessary to carry out the design on the scale proposed. It will also cost, when once fully equipped, \$40,000 a year to run the department and keep up the style necessary to so grand and extensive a department.

It is proposed to use "minute men" and not a paid department. That would be the worst experiment that could be made. These "minute men" would necessarily be laboring men who would have to quit their work and perhaps such work may be located in a distant part of the city. They would have to make quite a run to get to their engines at headquarters in case of an alarm. By the time they arrived there the regular department would be on hand, and nine times out of ten have the fire extinguished before the minute men would arrive on the scene. There does not seem to be a general demand or even a necessity for the distribution of our fire department. It is doing well, is efficient and there is no general demand from the people for such distribution. As nearly as we can get at it the demand is wholly confined to a few men who want a place and their friends who favor it that these men may secure a job. Let the council sit down on the measure promptly. The plea that department engines are too far remote to reach the fires speedily is a good thing to talk about, but if minute men are to be employed the central station nine times out of ten would be on the scene and have the fire put out should some of the outside engine houses take fire before the minute men come on the ground. It is a scheme to spend twenty-five thousand dollars annually and forty thousand dollars of the people's money. This is the size of it.

The necessity for a distribution of the fire apparatus is so obvious that it is strange there are men to be found who are willing to obstruct the measure, and yet the plan promises to be defeated by wrangling among silly councilmen, who can't give any reason other than their own pig-headedness why they should not co-operate at once to secure the desired end.

FIRE AT WARSAW.

TOTAL DESTRUCTION OF THE LAKEVIEW HOUSE YESTERDAY.

Special Telegram,

Warsaw, Ind., March 15, — The Lakeview house, formerly the Wright house, a four-story brick building, took fire at 4 o'clock in the lamp-room yesterday afternoon, and was entirely destroyed. The building was owned by Daniel Shoup. Estimated loss, \$12,000; insured for \$5,000, in the Niagara, of New York. It was occupied by William Kirtley, who sustains a loss of all the furniture, estimated at \$6,000; insured for \$3,000 in the North British, of London, and Underwriters' of New York.

James Pringle, saloon. Loss \$1,000; fully insured.

Richards & Moran, dry goods and clothing. Loss, \$1,000, by the removal of goods; fully insured in the North British and Underwriters, of New York.

Gottzman sisters, milliners. Loss light; fully insured.

George Cubbs, tobacco store. Loss, light; fully insured.

John Grabner, hardware, in an adjoining building. Loss, \$1,000; fully insured in the National, of Hartford, and the Howard, of New York.

All the mail matter in the postoffice, which was also in the same block, was removed in sacks to a safe place.

The Warsaw people are loud in their praise of the fire department of Fort Wayne, as undoubtedly the whole block would have been destroyed if they had not come, as a high wind was blowing at the time.

The run from Fort Wayne to Warsaw was made in fifty minutes by engine 221, engineer Rodney Ellenwood and conductor Maurice Prindville.

Chief Hilbrecht displayed great ability in handling the fire after his steamer got to work.

Mayor Zollinger accompanied the boys, and was a welcome guest.

A tailor, named Burguont, had his leg broken by falling while running to escape the falling walls.

A HOT HOT-EL !

DESTRUCTION OF THE LAKE VIEW HOUSE AT WARSAW LAST NIGHT.

TIMELY ASSISTANCE BY THE FORT WAYNE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Last evening about 5 o'clock, the fire department of this city, received intelligence that the business portion of Warsaw was in flames; that the fire was beyond control, and that aid from this city was prayed for. The Anthony Wayne engine was at once taken to the depot, where it was loaded on a flat car, and a minute later the car, with ten members of the fire department, including Chief Hilbrecht and Mayor Zollinger, was steaming away toward the endangered city at the rate of sixty miles an hour. In just one hour and a half after the message was filed at Warsaw, the Fort Wayne apparatus was unloaded at the station. The engine was frozen up when it got there, and some time was lost in thawing it out, but notwithstanding this difficulty, in less than half an hour, 1700 feet of hose had been laid and the engine was throwing water on the flames.

The fire was located in the Lake View House (formerly the Wright House) a large four story brick building, on the corner opposite the new court house. The fire originated in the lamp-room, and was soon beyond control. The fire protection of Warsaw consists of a hand engine, a third-class steamer and about 700 feet of hose. When the Fort Wayne boys arrived a hearty cheer was sent up by a thousand people, who had gathered at the depot. The management of the fire was at once surrendered to Chief Hilbrecht, whose extended experience, and his management in this instance, fully warranted the post of honor and trust. The entire building, together with its store-rooms and large amounts of stock in the building was entirely consumed, the last embers being extinguished about half past three. Other buildings within a few feet were saved mainly through the exertions of the Fort Wayne boys. The Kirtley House, an adjacent building, was not injured, although all the furniture was got in readiness for removal, should the occasion demand it.

To Quin Hossler, special correspondent for the Indianapolis Journal, we are indebted for the following estimates of the losses and insurance: The building was owned by Daniel Stroup, whose loss is \$12,000; insured for \$5,000 in the Niagara, of New York, and another company unknown. William Kirtley, proprietor, sustained a loss of \$5,000; insured for \$3,000 in the North British, of London, and the Underwriters, of New York. Richardson & Moran, dry goods and clothing, on the first floor of the building sustained a loss of \$3,000; insured for \$6,000 in the North British and Sun Fire, of London, and the Underwriters', of New York. Gottsman sisters, millinery, loss, \$3,000; insured, but the company is unknown. George Pringle, saloon, loss \$1,000; insured for \$1,500; but company unknown. George Cutsber, cigar store, loss \$100, covered with insurance. John Grabner's hardware store in an adjoining building sustained a loss of \$2,000 by water, and removing of goods; insured for \$3,000 in the National of Hartford, and the Howard, of New York. The postoffice adjoining Grabner's store, was uninjured, although the mail was all packed up and removed.

The firemen who went to the aid of Warsaw when the disastrous fire occurred there recently, yesterday received through city clerk Rockhill a gift of \$100 from the Warsaw city council, which was divided among them pro rata. The complimentary resolutions accompanied it.

CALLED A FIRE BUG.

The Startling Charge Dr. Goheen Makes Against Dr. J. W. Younge.
He Says He Set Fire To The Store.

The Drs. Goheen & Young are out and there is any amount of trouble ahead. Yesterday Dr. Goheen commenced suit through his attorneys, Stratton Bros., against his partner, Dr. J. W. Younge, for dissolution of partnership and the appointment of a receiver. He further charges that Dr. Younge set fire to the store on the occasion of the late fire and took \$45 in cash. All this is bodily charged in a complaint filed yesterday by Dr. Goheen in the superior court and on which showing a receiver in the person of Charles Thruman was appointed by the court yesterday. Dr. Goheen further says that Dr. Younge knew he was going to Columbia City that night and improved the opportunity. In fact the bulky paper on file with Clerk Maier is full of bloodcurdling charges from Dr. Goheen against his partner, and the coming suit will be one of great interest.

A barn belonging to Mr. Hiram Dustmas, two miles north of Roanoke, Indiana, burned yesterday, with its contents, oats, corn, and wheat. Two head of cattle perished. Damage, \$2000. It is supposed to have caught from a manure pike. Insured for \$1,300.

When the fire alarm sounded last evening it was thought that Miss Claxton had brought the usual fire. It was caused, however by lightning striking the wires.

NIGHT FIRE LAST NIGHT.

About half-past 11 o'clock last night an alarm of fire was turned in from box No. 13, calling the department to the residence of Charles Wehnert, a German, at 69 Wells street. The building is a long frame, and the fire originated, it is supposed from some warm ashes in the rear. Two gentlemen who happened to be passing in a carriage gave the alarm, and wakened Mr. Wehnert, wife and five children, who occupied the front portion of the house. One of the gentlemen carried out the cradle in which two infants lay sleeping. The furniture and clothing were saved. Through the prompt arrival of the engines the fire, which had already gained considerable headway, was speedily extinguished. The loss will amount to several hundred dollars. The house belongs to Mrs. Ritter and is insured in the Phoenix and North American companies.

CITY COUNCIL.

ITS REGULAR SESSION LAST NIGHT— FIREMEN EXEMPTED FROM TAXES.

An ordinance to provide for the exemption from taxation of full paid and volunteer firemen was amended by Mr. Boltz to exempt \$500 of property of each volunteer fireman and minute man from taxation, and passed.

A conflagration at the Boseker & White wheel works, at 7 o'clock yesterday morning, was extinguished by the prompt use of the fire hydrant located at the works.

An alarm from box 27, at 1:30 this morning, called the fire department to No. 399 East Washington street, the residence of H. H. Hilgemann, the kitchen to which was destroyed. Loss about \$30.

An alarm of fire from box thirty-two near midnight called the department to a burning woodshed on Ewing street, between Brackenridge and Jefferson. The flames were promptly extinguished.

* Sawmill of Geo. W. Oben, Maumee township burned.

Yesterday noon the fire department was summoned to the M. E. college, in the rear of which an old stable had been accidentally set on fire by some boys who were playing in the vicinity. The stable had not been used for some time and contained nothing besides a small quantity of hay and straw. The structure burned to the ground, entailing a loss of about \$50 or \$75.

A saw mill belonging to George W. Ober, of Maumee township, was burned last Friday night. Loss about \$2,000; no insurance. About 300,000 feet of lumber piled near the mill was saved. The origin of the fire is unknown.

The saw mill belonging to Mr. Ober, situated in Scipio, was burned on Thursday last.

At 9 o'clock last night an alarm of fire called a portion of the department to Lillie's lime warehouse, on Calhoun street. Some wet sweepings put in a barrel of lime had caused it to slake, and a light blaze was the result. No damage.

FIRE ALONG THE NICKEL PLATE.

Yesterday morning at 3 o'clock the little hamlet of Broughton, thirty-two miles east of here on the Nickel Plate, was entirely destroyed by fire. The flames originated in a large stove factory there and spread to the other buildings. There is no telegraph office at Broughton, and the particulars could not be learned except in a meager way through the operator at Latta, the nearest office. The loss is very heavy.

BARN SET ON FIRE.

Last Tuesday night several of our citizens noticed a very bright light on the horizon north of the city. Yesterday the cause of it was learned to be the burning of Squire Griffith's barn, in Perry township. One horse was badly burned and the entire loss in building and contents is over \$2,000. The flames were discovered just after the family had retired and burned with great fury. Mr. Griffith has good reason to believe it was set on fire and the grand jury will investigate the matter.

The residence of William Flutter, of St. Joseph township, burned down Wednesday.

The saw-mill of George Ober, in Maumee township, Allen county, which was destroyed by fire sometime ago, has been rebuilt and will soon be cutting lumber again. It was at this mill that an unfortunate man had his head sawed asunder. The evening before it was burned, Mr. Ober, it seems, had a presentiment that something evil was about to befall the property and, after shutting down, had the ground carefully wet down all around the furnace. He also inspected the establishment twice before going to bed, the last time about 9 p.m. At 10 p.m. the mill was on fire.

same paper, same day, same column.

One of the proprietors of the Perkin's wind-mill, has been at Lima, and proposes to put up a wind-mill and tank in the square, that will have a capacity of 200 barrels. Putting this tank 25 feet up from the ground it is expected that enough head will be obtained to throw water so as to be available in case of fire.

Yesterday morning at 5 o'clock three sheds and a barn in the rear of houses on Montgomery street were destroyed by fire. Loss \$200.

The appointment of John McGowan and Fred Becker as first and second assistant engineers of fire department, was confirmed.

The report of chief engineer of fire department was read and referred.

INCENDIARY FIRE.

Early Sunday morning the police discovered, just in time to prevent a serious conflagration, a desperate attempt to set fire to a row of buildings near the corner of Wallace and Hanna streets. In the rear of the barber shop was found a pile of straw and other rubbish which had been saturated with kerosene oil and set on fire. Had the flames not been at once quenched a most disastrous fire would have followed. There is no clue to the incendiary.

An explosion occurred at the gas works at 4 o'clock, yesterday morning, blowing up the meter-house and injuring two of the employes, one, it is feared, mortally. The fire department was called out.

Yesterday morning a boy named Clark tried to catch on to the hose cart en route to the fire and fell, cutting his face severely and spraining an ankle.

The fire department has a new team purchased yesterday by the committee for \$550. They weigh together 2,600 pounds and are splendid iron grays.

A BURNING LAUNDRY.

Yesterday afternoon between 5 and 6 o'clock a fire originated in the drying room of the Troy steam laundry, at 50 Pearl street, and the flames spreading rapidly the frame portion of the building was considerably damaged. The fire department responded quickly, and in a short time the flames were extinguished. The loss is about \$00. The building is owned by Andy Baker, and is fully insured in companies represented by Sid Lumbard and Mr. Schrader. None of the laundry work received any damage. There will, however, be a short delay completing the work now on hand, but customers, no doubt will exercise a little patience under the circumstances.

THE FIRE LAST NIGHT.

The alarm of fire at 10 o'clock last evening was caused by the barn and fifty foot long shed of C. L. Hill, on Superior street, taking fire and being partially consumed. It made a great light and at one time threatened a big conflagration. The fire department did excellent work. The loss was about \$50, covered by \$200 insurance. Mr. Joe Bramas had the barn rented, but his horse, buggy and sleighs were taken out without injury. A gentleman who was looking at the building when the flames burst out thinks he heard an explosion and saw a jet of fire start up from the hay mow.

The fire department committee reported relative changes and improvements in the fire alarm telegraph, and that while there might be a necessity for distributing the fire apparatus, it was not expedient. The report was concurred in.

Last evening an exhibition run was made by the Fort Wayne Fire Department, for the benefit of the visiting editors. At seven o'clock sharp, an alarm was turned in from box 3-5, at the corner of Van Buren and Wayne Streets, a distance of three-quarters of a mile from the engine house. The Department reached the spot and were throwing water through two nozzles in exactly four and a quarter minutes. The editors expressed great surprise at the performance.

OUR GALLANT FIRE BOYS.

The very efficient fire department of Fort Wayne, says the Pierceton Independent, made a public display of the actual workings of the department on Friday evening last, for the especial gratification of the Press association, at that time convened in that city. The alarm was turned in by previous arrangement from box 35, at the corner of Wayne and Jefferson street, one mile from the engine house, which threw open her doors and loosened the hitch snapp of eight spirited horses, trained to rush, like mad, to their respective places at the tongue, and almost in an instant the four apparatus, two hose carriages, a steamer and a hook and ladder truck were flying like the wind down Wayne street to the scene of the alarm. The hose carriages ran across Jefferson street and around the next block west, and started two streams of water in the remarkable short space of time of 4 1/4 minutes. The distance is said to be fully one mile. The firemen in the department are as fine looking body of men as you will find anywhere. The appliances are all first class. And the horses are a noble lot of animals, and with the exception of a very fine heavy team, which have only been in the department about ten days, understand their business apparently as well as the men. It is a department of which the city may well be proud.

During the exhibition of the fire department of Fort Wayne, it was the fortune of the writer to form the acquaintance of the only Republican councilman in Fort Wayne, who piloted us about the city. Unfortunately, for the life of us, we can not now recall his name, but he is a whole host within himself, and although all alone in that August body of city dads, he holds down his end of the plank with becoming grace, and occasionally "stirs up the boys" in a charming manner. The Republicans of Fort Wayne should inscribe that councilman's name on a tablet and place it where it will always be known. We hope to meet him hereafter.—Huntington Herald.

The barn of John Grider, in Pleasant township, together with contents, was destroyed by fire Thursday. A mare valued at \$225 perished in the flames, and a threshing machine, a quantity of corn, wheat, oats, hay, etc., valued at \$1,600, was also burned. Insurance, \$600.

* Fleming Road Scraper plant on High Street, opposite Peters Box Factory was destroyed by fire.

A BAD BLAZE.

This morning, about 3 o'clock, fire was discovered in the small frame building at 223 East Jefferson street owned by A. H. Carrier and occupied by a man named Philip Steletsky, with a stock of groceries. The fire department was on hand in a short time after the alarm was turned in but the flames had gained such headway that it was found impossible to save the building or contents and the property vanished in smoke. Streletsky was "all broke up" over his loss and pranced about his bonfire in an ecstasy of grief, wringing his hands and howling piteously. As his stock was insured for nearly \$1,000 and it would not invoice within \$200 of that sum, it would seem that Mr. Streletsky's vociferous sorrow was entirely uncalled for. A building owned by J. G. Ketner was also damaged by the destroying element, though the amount of the loss could not be precisely determined. It is fully covered by insurance, however, and Mr. Ketner is not worrying. The fire is supposed to have originated from a defective flue.

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A tramp was arrested in the eastern part of this township, on Monday, for setting fire to the barn of a farmer named Kisphenstein. There was not enough evidence to warrant his being held, and he was discharged.

The barn of Elijah Jacobs, who resides one mile south of Zanesville, together with all its contents, including three horses, was totally destroyed by fire on Saturday night. The fire is supposed to have originated from the careless use of matches by boys, who were playing about the building. The loss will foot up \$5,000. It is not known whether there is any insurance.

Chief Hilbrecht has purchased a new team for the fire department.

CITY COUNCIL.

Gentlemen — With the aid of the fire department, 500,000 gallons of water per day can be pumped from the St. Joe river to Spy Run at a total cost of about \$10 daily.

Respectfully,

C. McCulloch,

T. B. Hedekin,

John F. W. Meyer,

Water Works Trustees.

Councilman Wolf introduced the following resolution, which was adopted:

Resolved, That the fire committee be and they are hereby instructed to see that the fire department is placed into service, if necessary, for the transfer of water from the St. Joe river to the water works basin during the present emergency.

Councilman Wolf then introduced the following resolution, which was referred to the committee on finance to carry out the sense of it:

Resolved, That the committee on fire department be instructed to at once place the fire engine "Frank Randall" in proper condition for service.

On motion, the council then adjourned.

The "Frank Randall" fire steamer was sent to the Olds Foundry this morning for repairs.

Yesterday afternoon the fire engine began pumping water from the St. Joe river into the filter basin at the pumping house. During the day the water fell about an inch in the filter basis. The engine is at work again to-day. At the next meeting the council will have to decide on a water supply, or all the fire steamers in the city will be ruined.

The fire department horses received Saturday afternoon are beauties. The pair weigh 2,700 pounds, are seventeen hands high and in color are a mahogany bay. They are both as gentle as kittens and very intelligent. George Thieme, the very efficient driver, will have them in charge and expects by the latter part of this week to have them ready for active service.

On Sunday morning at 2 o'clock, the fire department was called to the corner of Jefferson and Griffith streets by an alarm turned in by some malicious person from box 3-2. When the chief examined the box he found that the lock had been destroyed by the person who rang in the alarm. A new lock was placed on the box yesterday, and efforts are being made to effect the arrest of the man who used the false key.

HOW FIRES ORIGINATE.

As the cold weather approaches fires become more numerous, owing to the stupidity and carelessness of people, and from the many instances noticed in the past it is a wonder that we do not have more fires and serious ones at that. Cellars of many stores are filled with trash of all kinds, accompanied with boxes, in fact consisting of a small lumber yard, with no passages between or entrances direct from the outside. Boys are often allowed to go in such places with a candle instead of a lantern. Stove pipes are allowed to run through closets for a flue and through partitions without any metal to protect the wood from the hot pipe. Then there is the careless storage of petroleum and its products; ashes in wooden boxes or barrels, set upon wooden floors or adjoining inflammable outhouses; open hatchways and many other defects. One man could be kept busy finding the defects and compelling the people to remedy the evil, but he must have some power from the common council before he can be of any use.

The alarm of fire yesterday afternoon from box 13, was occasioned by the burning of an old shed, valued at about \$10. The department responded promptly, but was not needed, the flames having been extinguished before the engines reached the scene.

The old steamer "Frank Randall," which has been in dry dock for a long time, was this morning dragged out into the yard at the fire department headquarters, and is now being repaired preparatory to placing her on the bank of the St. Jos river to pump water into the basin, for city consumption.

PAPER UNKNOWN

10/09/1883

* Samuel McDonald, the condemned man of the brutal murder of Louis Laurent is hung. The jail yard had more than 200 persons and a crowd estimated at over 15,000 mulled outside the jail yard. The entire police and fire department were there to keep the crowd in order and a fire engine and hose were on hand for use in case of need to preserve peace.

FORT WAYNE DAILY SENTINEL

Wednesday

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A BARN BURNED.

Yesterday evening the barn belonging to Charles Fairfield, located on his farm four miles southwest of the city, was totally destroyed by fire, including a quantity of hay, oats, a buggy, wagon, agricultural implements of various kinds and a fine family horse and an animal belonging to L. B. Johns, of this city. The origin of the fire is unknown, but it is supposed that the hay became ignited from a coal dropped from a pipe. The loss is in the vicinity of \$2,000 and the insurance will not exceed \$500. Mr. Fairfield is not in a condition to bear this blow to his resources, and it falls upon him with crushing weight.

CITY COUNCIL.

The fire committee reported that the wires of the fire alarm system are in bad condition, and asked that 2,000 pounds of wire and 50 new battery cells be purchased. The report was referred.

The fire department was called out last night at 9 o'clock, by an alarm from box 12, in Bloomingdale. A burning chimney on High street was the cause. No damage.

Yesterday an incipient fire in the apartments of Lottie Smallhouse, in the Hough block, was extinguished by Fireman Charles Sheldon. The lady was preparing a meal over a gasoline stove, and the woodwork was ignited from the close proximity of the blaze from the gasoline.

The fire alarm electric apparatus in the engine house are broken. The heavy weight that regulates it gave way and tore the mechanism badly. The apparatus at the engine house does not work, and it will require \$500 or \$1,000 to repair it. The manufacturers of the machine have been telegraphed to send on a man.

Frederick Becker, the pioneer fireman, born and raised in the Second ward, celebrated his thirty-third birthday yesterday. A large circle of friends gathered and extended their best wishes, and were pleasantly entertained. Mr. Becker is a model young man, is yet single, and the young ladies of his ward all sigh for him.

The city has been offered \$75 for the old Seventh ward engine house. It may be sold and refitted as a grocery store. If allowed to stand unoccupied much longer it will be taken to pieces by mischievous boys.

This morning when starting for the fire the team of horses driven by Fireman George Thieme became frightened and broke the tongue of the steamer.

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This morning at 11 o'clock an alarm of fire was sounded from box 36. The occasion of the alarm was a slight blaze at the residence of a Mrs. Epply, corner of Jackson and Wilt streets, where a defective flue had caused the roof to ignite. The fire department was promptly on hand, but the fire was extinguished before the hose carts reached the scene.

Bob Cran, the popular foreman of the Bass foundry, laid off yesterday to purchase a cradle and fooled Captain Hettler, George Strodel and some other gentlemen. It took Bob all day to complete his purchase, and the baby is about a year old. When Bob was a fireman, he exhibited more decision in acting in a matter of this sort.

The saw mill of Bryson Bros., at Roanoke, burned last night. The loss is about \$2,500, and the insurance is very light. The fire is supposed to have been the work of an incendiary. Particulars of the blaze were unobtainable to-day.

Yesterday the firemen made a satisfactory test of the old hand fire engine which works splendidly, throwing a strong and large stream on the roof of the court house. Parties from Paulding, Ohio, will be here next week to negotiate for the engine's purchase.

FIRE ON THE WABASH.

THE TICKET OFFICE HERE CATCHES IT FOR \$200.

BAGGAGEMASTER BROOKS EXTINGUISHES THE BLAZE.

Last night about 10 o'clock Ticket Agent McConnell, of the Wabash, went home to the bosom of his family. When he left everything was properly arranged, but a drop gas light fell after Mac had gone and created some havoc. The drop light set fire to the desk and burned \$35 in cash, some valuable papers and tickets, and furniture. The bright blaze was seen by Mr. Milo Brooks, the vigilant baggagemaster of the road, who broke open the office and extinguished the fire. As it was, the loss will reach \$200, mostly to furniture.

A BAD BLAZE.

A serious blaze occurred last night between 10 and 11 o'clock at the ticket office of the Wabash road in this city. Mr. McConnell, the paste board manipulator, left the office for a short time after the arrival of No. 3, and in some manner which cannot be explained, the flames of a gas jet extended to a few sheets of paper hanging on an adjacent hook and in an instant it flashed up. Before persons outside could gain an entrance \$35 in money, a number of valuable papers and portion of the wood work of the office had been consumed. The total loss is about \$200.

To-day workmen are engaged in repairing the damage done to the interior of the office.

BIG BLAZE AT WARSAW.

Yesterday morning at 4 o'clock fire was discovered in the third story of G. B. Lesh & Co.'s plow handle and bending factory at Warsaw. The alarm was given at once, but the building was burned to the ground. The loss will reach \$75,000, with \$26,500 insurance.

The yard was full of dry lumber, and it is almost a miracle that it was not burned, as it was piled within fifteen feet of the building. The building, machinery, lumber and stock on hand at the invoice in July was valued at \$130,000, but at least \$40,000 was on the yard and adjoining buildings not burned. John H. Lesh, of Goshen, Ind., is one of the firm. The building throws about thirty married men out of work, besides a number of single men. The capacity of the works was 150 men. There is no doubt the building will be rebuilt at once.

Yesterday the fire department was called to the butcher shop of Kabrisch, on Fairfield avenue. A fire started in the shop but was extinguished before any considerable damage was done.

Last night, about 9 o'clock, an alarm of fire from box 16 called the fire department to the Kerr Murray foundry, where sparks from a chimney had set fire to the roof of a small shed. It blazed up alarmingly for a short time, but the prompt application of water extinguished the flames before the department arrived.

The fire alarm box at the corner of Van Buren and Wayne streets will to-morrow be removed to the corner of Van Buren and Washington.

A lamp exploded in Charley Rosenberg's saloon at 2 o'clock. Officer Lapp was at hand, and but for his discovery there would have been a conflagration.

Yesterday afternoon the fire department had a run to the residence of John Hartman, corner of Washington and Harmer streets. A chimney burned out only, and we are cheated out of a first-class item.

The fire department was called to Maumee avenue yesterday, to smother a fire in a house belonging to G. Burlager, the drayman. This morning the department was called to the feed store of John A. Scott, on Columbia street, to put out an incipient blaze. No damage.

Last evening there was an alarm of fire. Box 17 was rung in, and the department made a run only to find a chimney burning out at 62 Williams street.

The burning of a chimney on a Williams street house called the fire department out last night. Four horses pulled the steamer.

The Anthony Wayne steamer has been overhauled, and was tested by Chief Hilbrecht yesterday. The steamer will be held in reserve.

THE FIRE ENGINE.

ACCOUNT OF THE INVENTION OF THE FIRST STEAM FIRE ENGINE.

THE WORK OF MOSES LATTI, A STUNTED BEING WITH A WONDROUS HEAD.

INCIDENTS OF ITS FIRST APPEARANCE.

(Chicago Herald)

Along in 1864, an errand led the writer into Greenwood's foundry at Cincinnati, and having to wait awhile to see Mr. Greenwood, I was allowed the privilege, then seldom granted, to go into the work-room where the inventor of the steam fire engine was at work. It was a long, high room, the walls on the east side being hung with drawings of the engine. Beneath the drawing ran a long work bench, and at this stood a very diminutive specimen of a man, short and spare, stoop-shouldered even to deformity. He had a square white paper cap on his head, and was busy measuring something, while I looked at him. I saw that his head redeemed his poor body, for it was massive, and the eyes had in them the light of genius. In a moment he turned to me and asked; "Did Mr. Greenwood give you permission to come in here?"

"He, did, sir; he told me to come and see how the steam fire engine was getting on, so I could report its progress to Mr. Probasco" (of the great hardware house of Tyler Davidson & Co.).

"Ah, very well," said the inventor, "very well. My name is Latti, Moses Latti, and Mr. Probasco knows me well, and, as you come from him, you shall see what few see. Can you in any way, or to any extent, understand drawing on the wall?" I confessed that I could not. "Well, it is very simple. Let me explain. The engine is intended to throw at any time eight streams of water — four from each side — and whenever the water can be obtained in sufficient quantity for the eight streams there will be no trouble in supplying them to the eight lines of hose. It is intended of course, to take the engine to the scene of the fire with horses — four horses. As the engine starts out the furnace is fired up, and ordinarily by the time we shall arrive at the fire steam will be up and the engine ready for service. Eight of these large streams forced out on to a fire with the pressure we shall be able to command will drown any fire — even four of them, well directed, will be of wonderful value. But," added Mr. Latti, "the trouble is that there is no certainty that there is no certainty that this or any other steam fire engine will ever run to a fire. You are not aware probably how bitter the feeling of the volunteer firemen is against this engine. They say it shall never throw a stream on a fire in this city. The recent riots here show what a mob can do in our city, and I fear sometimes that I shall never live to see this grand idea brought into the service of the world. My steps are dogged; spies are continually on my track; I am worried with all sorts of anonymous communications, threatening me with all sorts of ills and evils unless I drop work on this engine and pronounce myself a failure."

The old man's eyes flashed as he said; "I'll never give it up! I'll build it, and there are men enough in this city to see that it has a fair trial, and it shall have it. When it is finished it

will be heard from at the first fire and woe to those who stand in its way.”

With that we separated. As the time approached for the public trial of the engine the volunteer firemen were in a ferment. It would never do to destroy the engine before it had a trial, and to destroy it after a successful exhibit of its powers was made equally useless, so it was understood that no demonstration, pro or con, would be made on it until it should come to a fire. Then it was to be rendered useless, and all who had a hand in its working were to be rendered useless, too. The public trial came off. The engine far exceeded in efficiency anything that had been claimed for it by its inventor, or by his backers, and a feeling of satisfaction swept over the city at the knowledge that such a great auxiliary power was with them to fight fire. Still it was known, or believed generally, that its first appearance at a fire would be the signal for as bloody a riot as had ever disgraced the city. The volunteer fire department was there, as everywhere else, a political ring far more efficient under ordinary circumstances at the polls than at a fire, and its members were to a man selected for their “influence” at the voting precincts and for their ability to make the contents of the ballot-box when it was emptied show “by a large majority” their man ahead no matter what kind of ballots had gone into it. Then, if this “steamer” was of any account it would ruin and break up not only the companies but their friends and backers, and the manufacturers who built them.

One night an alarm rang out from some great warehouse on Third street, near Main. A minute or two elapsed to the listeners on Main street above Fourth, and then down came the great steam fire engine, four mammoth gray horses in front of it, at a gallop, the smoke streaming from its stack, the fire flashing from its grates, its ponderous wheels grinding the cobble stones into powder as they struck them, and, as the great monster went down the hill, people woke as out of a trance and started after it.

The engine was brought in front of the block, and soon stream after stream shot from it. The warehouses were among the most valuable in the city, and were stored with costly goods. The time had come, the engine was there, four streams had been gotten on, when the cry, “The hose is cut!” rang out. Then the melee began, but the citizens were stronger than the volunteer firemen, and after a struggle the “steamer” drowned the fire and was taken home.

The next morning Moses Latta awoke to find himself famous, and the action of the appreciative citizens of Cincinnati soon put him in a position where his genius was made more available to the world. The “steamer” of to-day has little in it outside of the fact that it is built to effect the same purpose as was Latta’s engine, but that was the germ of all those which now at the tap of the electric bell seem to hitch themselves to the horses and tear down our streets when an alarm is struck.

FORT WAYNE DAILY GAZETTE Tuesday 01/01/1884 Page 6, Col. 1.

A chimney burned out on Walnut street yesterday, at the house of Mr. McLean. The department had a run

FORT WAYNE DAILY GAZETTE Thursday 01/03/1884 Page 6, Col. 2.

Last night, an alarm from box 62 called the department to Montgomery street, between Clay and Monroe streets. A smoke-house, belonging to one Stratletzsky, burned. Loss trifling.

FORT WAYNE DAILY SENTINEL Thursday 01/03/1884 Page 1, Col. 6.

There was a \$40 blaze this afternoon at the residence of Leopold Wolf, corner of Van Buren and Jefferson streets. A coal of fire dropped from the stove and ignited the carpet and floor. The department was not called out. Glutting, Bauer & Michael, the insurance men, will make good the loss.

FORT WAYNE DAILY SENTINEL Friday 01/04/1884 Page 3, Col. 3.

The house of C. H. Aldrich, of South Calhoun street, caught fire yesterday afternoon, but was extinguished without the aid of the department.

Yesterday the residence of Charles H. Aldrich, esq., caught fire from a defective grate. The damage done can scarcely be covered by one hundred dollars. Insured in the Lumbard agency.

This morning, at 5:30, the fire department was called out from box eighteen, at the corner of Lafayette and Leith streets. The cause of the alarm was a wood shed on fire. That being beyond the point where water mains are laid, the department was obliged to carry water in buckets. The shed was the property of a widow and the loss is small.

At five o'clock this morning the Fire Department was called to the corner of Lafayette and Leith streets, at the south-east limits of the city, by the burning of a barn well filled with stove wood. The loss will amount to two hundred dollars.

A burning dwelling was recently extinguished in Auburn by means of snow balls. No water was available and the crowd began firing the "beautiful" into the burning building so rapidly that the flames were soon subdued.

CONFLAGRATION.

THE BUSINESS PORTION OF MAYSVILLE GUTTED.

Last night the smart little town of Maysville, in Springfield township, experienced a calamity such as it has never before known. The business portion of the town was blighted by fire to such an extent that it will be difficult of restoration.

Dr. Franklin K. Cosgrove, of the place, informs us that the flames originated in the meat market of Dresback & Patte, and before they could be checked, communicated with the hardware store of O. Minnick, with George James' bakery, and with James Weaver's grocery. All of these buildings were completely destroyed and the side of the building owned by the Free Masons was badly damaged.

The establishment of Weaver was not insured, and the others were partially protected by risks in Fort Wayne agencies. Some declare that the origin of the fire must have been incendiary, but this is easier stated than demonstrated.

A \$2,000 FIRE.

THE POST OFFICE BUILDING CATCHES A BLAZE—
MORE DAMAGE BY AXES AND WATER THAN BY FIRE.

Last at 11:30 o'clock that vigilant officer, Lieutenant Wilkinson was passing the postoffice building on Court street. His sensitive nostrils smelt smoke and he paused. A moment later Frank's keen optics saw smoke issuing from the second story of the building, and he straightway ran to the fire engine house where Mike Connors was on duty. It was but the work of a few moments to arouse the department who, by their energetic efforts, saved the building from incineration.

The fire originated in the law office of Hays & Wilson, and so far as could be learned was occasioned by a cigar stump or match thrown upon the floor. For a long time the firemen were unable to locate the original starting place of the fire, but when they did so they promptly extinguished it. Their intelligent efforts under Chief Hilbrecht's direction are deserving of our highest praises.

The building was of course most damaged by water and the axes of the firemen. The third story is occupied as the meeting rooms of Fort Wayne lodge No. 14, I.O.O.F., Concordia lodge No. 152, I.O.O.F., and the Daughters of Rebekah. The second floor, where the conflagration started is used for lawyers' offices and the Boys' World establishment. Brother Rine Caps remained in charge of the society rooms all night.

Messrs. Fred Drake and D. C. Sutton, of the post office, were present early, and the latter took charge of matters. The delivery department was slightly inundated by water but not enough to do serious damage.

The building is owned by Henry Burgess, of New Haven, and is amply insured. The tenants are also insured from loss. Chief Hilbrecht estimates the damage at about \$2,000.

FOUND A BLAZE.

FRANK WILKINSON DISCOVERS A FIRE IN THE POST OFFICE BUILDING
A BIG CONFLAGRATION PREVENTED.

Last night Lieut. Frank Wilkinson discovered smoke issuing from the upper windows of the post office building. He ran to the engine house and had Mike Connors turn in an alarm. The department was soon on the spot and the fire pointed out in the office of Hays & Wilson. A big hole was burned in the floor and the blaze was rapidly spreading, when a fierce stream of water was turned on it. The post office below was flooded and considerable damage done the mail material. The fire had crept up to the third floor and burned into the woodwork, but was easily quenched. The third story is occupied as the meeting rooms of Fort Wayne lodge, No. 14, I. O. O. F., Concordia lodge No. 152, I. O. O. F., and the Daughters of Rebekah. The second floor, where the conflagration started, is used for lawyer's offices and the Boys' World establishment. Rine Caps remained in charge of the rooms on the third floor all night. The damage by fire and water will fall considerably below \$1,000. Henry Burgess, of New Haven, owns the building. All losses are covered by insurance.

A BLAZE CHECKED.

WITHOUT RECOURSE TO THE FIRE DEPARTMENT-- LILLIE & MUNSON'S
WAREHOUSE SET ON FIRE BY THE ACTION OF WATER ON LIME.

Yesterday what might have been a destructive conflagration at Lillie & Munson's warehouse was prevented with slight loss. The thaw of yesterday melted the snow and ice, which trickled down on the floor of the lime-house and upon the lime in sacks, and about \$100 worth of the calcinable substance was destroyed. About 2 o'clock Mr. Lillie had occasion to visit the warehouse and discovered the fire, which was checked without calling on the department.

There is full insurance. It is fortunate that the fire was discovered in season to prevent the destruction of some \$25,000 worth of property.

A hand grenade, which is said to contain a substance that will readily extinguish fires when thrown into burning buildings, will shortly be exhibited to the municipal authorities.

A FIRE EXTINGUISHER TEST.

Yesterday at the base ball park Mayor Zollinger, Chief Engineer Hilbrecht, several members of the council and about three or four hundred prominent merchants and citizens, witnessed a test of the Harden hand grenade, a patent device for extinguishing fires.

Mr. T. B. Mapp the agent, was present and looked after the arrangements. A piano packing case about ten feet high was smeared inside and out with pine tar, a lot of shavings and kindling wood thrown in and the whole saturated with kerosene oil. The inflammable material was then ignited, and when in full blaze Mr. Mapp threw in several hand grenades which burst and totally extinguished the conflagration in less than a minute.

The Harden hand grenade consists of a glass globe filled with a chemical fluid, highly charged with and generating in fire heat, a gas in which it is claimed, it is impossible for combustion to continue. A broad surface of flame is covered when a grenade breaks, while the large quantities of the fire extinguishing gas and the action of the fire on the fluid causes still further generation of the gas. The test yesterday was highly successful, and it is quite probable that the fire committee will purchase a lot of the grenades which cost from \$9 to \$5 per dozen. Mayor Zollinger is in favor of it, and so are the councilmen who were present at the test.

A serious fire occurred Friday night at Leipsic, at the crossing of the Dayton & Michigan and the Nickel Plate roads. The fire broke out shortly before midnight, and destroyed seven business houses and two dwellings.

The Alerts are arranging an excursion to Chicago to witness the panorama there, "The Battle of Gettysburg", said by those who have seen it, to be startlingly realistic.

Last night there were two alarms of fire. The department first turned out to the Mayer house where a chimney burned with no damage. The next alarm was from the corner of Barr and Jefferson streets. A chimney of the frame building occupied by Gus. Mossheimer and George Pettis, burned out. There was no damage reported in this case.

On Saturday evening after the Mayer House scare, Chief Engineer Hilbrecht, of the Fire Department, unscrewed the brass top of the Lowry hydrant he had attached at the corner of Clinton and Wayne streets, and was inspecting, with a lighted torch, that part of the hydrant that is sunk below the street, when suddenly a quantity of gas that had gathered in the hydrant exploded, knocking the Chief over and singeing his mustache and eye-brows. The gas probably leaked in from a ruptured gas main.

At 5 o'clock Sunday morning, the barn of Isaac Lauferty, esq., corner of Berry and Webster streets, caught fire in some unexplained manner, and was nearly a total loss. The walls will have to be taken down. An insurance policy of \$500 is held in the Lumbard agency. This amount will hardly cover the loss. Mr. Lauferty's family carriage was saved.

A BURNED SMOKING CAR.

THE SMOKER ATTACHED TO WABASH NO. 3 TOTALLY DESTROYED BY
FIRE NEAR THE CITY.

Last night reports were rife that Wabash No. 8, the fast train due here at 8:40 o'clock had left the track. A reporter hastened to the depot and found the accident was quite of another nature. At Nelson's crossing east of the city, between New Haven and this city, the stove in smoking car No. 43 overturned and spilled the red-hot coals about the floor. The car took fire immediately, and the passengers hustled out with great unanimity and celerity. The burning smoker was cut off the train and left to be destroyed. The lurid glare of the flames could be seen from the city. The engine ran on here and took back a wrecking train and in short order, under the direction of Yard Master Newton and force, the track was cleared of the debris. The fast train pulled in here at 11:50 o'clock and train No. 4, which was held here, was enabled to get out. The destroyed car was an old one and the loss will be total amounting to about \$3,000. Of course there is insurance.

A SMOKING CAR.

A COACH OF THE WABASH FAST LINE BURNS TO THE TRACKS.

The west bound fast line on the Wabash due at the south depot at 8:40 last night, did not arrive until a few minutes before midnight, when the passengers for Fort Wayne made a raid on the restaurants and hotels and devoured their late supper with an unusual relish.

The delay was caused by a most singular and very expensive accident, being nothing less than the burning to the tracks of the smoking car. It seems that the stove in the smoking car had been insecurely fastened and had been rattling about a good deal from the time the train left Toledo. On account of the very severe weather a big fire had been kindled and unnoticed by the trainmen or passengers, a quantity of live coals were thrown out and were allowed to lie in close proximity to the inside walls of the car, which was heavily coated with paint and varnish. A flame resulted, and in a few moments ran around the interior of the coach, to the great terror of the passengers, some of whom had been sleeping in their seats. The accident happened just after the train had passed the Nickel Plate crossing at New Haven, and was running at a speed of forty miles an hour behind Grover Mattoon's engine. The conductor as soon as apprised of what had happened signalled the engineer to stop, and a halt was made on the grade just west of the point where the New Haven pike crosses. There was no water at hand, and it was apparent, immediately, that the coach was doomed, and the only efforts made by the trainmen was to save the other coaches. Accordingly the train was backed and the cars to the rear of the burning "smoker" were set far behind and at a safe distance. The engine then started ahead with the baggage and mail cars, and the smoking car was left to its doom. The engine was then uncoupled and came on to Fort Wayne for relief, and an engine and a wrecking crew were at once sent to the scene of the accident. Most of the passengers had left the cars and were found watching the fire, which lit up the heavens and created in the eastern portion of the city, the impression of a conflagration in New Haven. The wrecking gang pulled the burning coach from the track, the engine collected the balance of the train, and Fort Wayne station was reached three hours late. The matter created a great deal of excitement on the streets last night, and the report gained credence that a terrible wreck had taken place.

Last evening there were two alarms of fire both of which proved to be false. The water pipes at Hardung's tailor shop on Calhoun street burst and some waste water went into the cellar where the temperature being warm, generated steam which issued from the cellar grating. The department did not go, though Mr. Gotleib Steup, the clerk, was notified at the Academy. Then O. A. Simons, esq., thought he detected a blaze in the McDougal block, and hastily ran to the engine house. The engines went out but to be fooled.

CHIEF HILBRECHT'S ADVICE.

"I would like to give housekeepers a valuable hint," said Chief Hilbrecht, of the fire department, yesterday. "It is this: Never pack away with other rags the cloths used in cleaning lamps." The reason why I speak of this now is because a small fire was caused recently by the non-observance of the rule I have just mentioned. A lot of rags had been stuffed into a bag, and among them some which had been used for wiping lamps and chimneys. The result was a case of spontaneous combustion, clearly arising from heat generated by the coal oil and lamp-black on the rags. As a result of my investigation, I deduce the rule I mentioned just now. It is poor economy to save a few cents worth of old cloth at the risk of a conflagration.

Fire was discovered at 9 o'clock Sunday morning in the rear of Cianey's dry good store at Warsaw. The building being a frame the fire was soon beyond control. Cianey's loss will reach \$8,000; insured for \$10,000, as follows: German American, \$2,000; North American, \$1,000; Pennsylvania, \$1,000; London Assurance, \$2,000; Niagara, \$1,000; Continental, \$1,000; Commercial of New York, \$1,000, and \$2,00 in a company unknown. McCalley's hat store, adjoining, suffered a loss of \$300; no insurance. The notion store of Mayor & Zimmermann was damaged about \$800; no insurance. Funk's drug store suffered to the extent of \$2,000; insured in the Pennsylvania for \$1,000, and in the Star, of New York, for \$1,000.

Last night the fire department ran to one of John Taylor's houses, between Clay and Hanna streets. A chimney burned out with no further damage.

Yesterday morning, the residence of Frederick Shigley, at Bluffton, caught fire from a defective flue. The loss was about \$200. The household goods were considerably damaged.

A \$600 BLAZE.

THE FIRST CONFLAGRATION FOR SOME MONTHS - JIM BOWER'S HOUSE
ON GARDEN STREET BURNS DOWN BY THE CARELESSNESS OF AN
M. E. COLLEGE STUDENT.

Last night about 10 o'clock there were two alarms of fire from boxes 36 and 37, and the department made the long run with their usual promptitude, George Thieme's four-horse team hustling mightily with the ribbons in George's skillful hands.

At 69 Garden street has lived Jim Bowers, a fireman on the Pittsburg. He made a mistake one day and rented a room to an M. E. College student, who went to bed and left a hot fire. The defective stove-pipe became over-heated and set fire to the building, a one and one-half story frame. Mr. Bowers and his family had retired, but escaped in their night clothes. The flames promptly devoured the structure, which is quite uninhabitable.

The department did efficient work and succeeded in subduing the fiery element when the house was half consumed. There is \$700 insurance, and Chief Hilbrecht tells us that \$600 will about cover the loss.

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Policeman George Lee narrowly escaped a horrible death at the burning of Jim Bowers' house, on Garden street, last night. The vigilant officer went into the house to help take out the furniture, and in the second story was shut off from escape except by the window. Ambrose Geary, of the Alerts, placed a ladder in position down which the policeman descended, wet to the skin and nearly suffocated.

Mrs. Urilla Hilgeman was taken to the asylum to-day by Deputy Sheriff Hance and George Thieme of the fire department. Years ago Mrs. Hilgeman was made to marry a man she did not love. When her reason was shattered, of course, the fellow abandoned her.

The roof on the office of Lewis Stapleford's livery stable, corner of Lafayette and Columbia streets, caught fire this morning at 7 o'clock. An alarm was turned in and the fire department arrived promptly on the scene and extinguished the flames. Loss only about \$5.

Near Churubusco night before last incendiaries set fire to the barn of Peter Karst. The fire was discovered between eleven and twelve o'clock, but the flames had gained such headway that but little could be saved. One horse was taken from the building, while three horses, a cow and several calves were burned to death. A large quantity of grain and hay, together with agricultural implements and farm machinery, including in the latter a self-binding reaper, was also consumed.

Chief Hilbrecht's term of office expires in May. Mr. Hilbrecht has made such an admirable officer he will have no opposition for chief of fire department.

At the next regular meeting of the city council, Chief Hilbrecht, of the fire department, will submit a request for the distribution of the fire apparatus according to the plan heretofore detailed in The Sentinel.

The firemen have not had a run for three weeks. Chief Hilbrecht may arrange daily practice runs as soon as the weather moderates and the roads improve. The fire laddies get out of practice.

REPORT OF CHIEF OF FIRE DEPARTMENT.

As required by the ordinance, I herewith submit to you my annual report of the fire department for the year ending March 31, 1884:

Number of fires.....	50
Amount of property destroyed.....	\$ 5,293.79
Insurance on same.....	30,520.00
Insurance paid.....	4,755.79
Insurance above loss.....	\$25,226.00

The working force of the Department consists of one Chief Engineer, two assistant engineers, eight full paid men, two foremen, fourteen minute men and one volunteer hook and ladder company.

The strength of the Department at the present time is two fire engines, one hook and ladder truck, two double horse hose carts, one single horse hose cart, eleven horses, all in actual service, two steam engines and one hand engine, (the latter not reliable,) 4,400 feet of good hose and 1,400 feet of unreliable hose.

Running expenses of the department.....	\$13,717.89
Amount turned over to the City Treasurer for horses, coal and old hose sold.....	1,036.56
Total amount expended.....	\$12,681.83

The extra expenses of the Department for the past year were as follows: Paid to the Gutta		Percha and Rubber
Company for hose purchased in 1879.....	\$	363.00
Paid to the American Fire Company for hose.....		945.00
Total.....	\$	1,308.00

The expenses of the fire alarm telegraph lines, which have been rebuilt, amounts to \$100. This is largely due to the full paid men, the work having been done by them. A serious accident occurred to the electric bell strike, which cost \$270 to repair. It could not be repaired at the Engine House, the Department not having the necessary tools with which to do the work.

Five old and condemned horses have been sold for \$710 and their places filled with sound young horses at a cost of \$1,215.

In a previous report I called the attention of your honorable body to the necessity of the distribution of the Fire Department and I respectfully renew my recommendation. Should a fire occur in some of the outer portions of the city, great damage might be done before the Fire

Department could reach the scene.

I also recommend that swinging harness be used in the department. I consider them a saving of time in hitching up, a very great saving in the wear of the harness and a great relief to the horses.

I most gratefully return thanks to Your Honorable Body for your support of the Department, to the Fire Committee for their council in all matters pertaining to the improvement of the Department, to the Marshal, Chief of Police and Patrolmen for services rendered at fires, and to the members of the Department for the intelligent and efficient obedience of all orders on all occasions.

Henry Hilbrecht,
Chief of Fire Department,
Referred to the Committee on Fire Department.

FORT WAYNE DAILY SENTINEL Tuesday 04/22/1884 Page 4, Col. 3.

A house belonging to Dave Robinson, at No. 286 East Washington street, caught fire this afternoon and was damaged \$200 worth. The department did good service.

FORT WAYNE DAILY SENTINEL Monday 04/28/1884 Page 3, Col. 4.

Yesterday afternoon the fire department ran to Baker street, where a house belonging to John Cartwright was ablaze. A terrific gale was blowing at the time and it looked as if that end of town would be swept by fire. Chief Hilbrecht got his men at work and confined the blaze to Mr. Cartwright's two houses. They were damaged to the extent of \$800. The fire boys never did better work, and the result shows that Chief Hilbrecht has as good a company as ever served the city.

Last Monday night at Coesse, Whitley county, the building and nearly all of the stock of goods of Allen Brothers was burned. From there the flames spread to the saloon and dwelling of George Graves and the building and goods were destroyed. Allens' loss is \$4,000 with \$2,000 insurance, and Graves' \$1,000 with \$500 insurance.

Two frame buildings in the rear of the Kerr Murray foundry, burned yesterday. The buildings will be replaced by Mr. A. D. Cressler, manager of the foundry.

FRANK B. VOGEL DYING.

Yesterday afternoon Frank B. Vogel, the merchant tailor, was stricken suddenly ill, and up to 3 o'clock this afternoon had suffered thirty-one hemorrhages. About a year ago Mr. Vogel had pneumonia and his lungs were affected. No man in Fort Wayne is better known than Mr. Vogel. In 1858 he joined the volunteer fire department as torch boy. He was promoted to first assistant chief engineer in 1866, and was elected chief of the department in 1873. He was vice-president of the National Association of Chief engineers and possessed a store of information that served him well in that position. Mr Vogel has traveled extensively in Europe and America, and is but forty-three years of age. At 3 o'clock his life was despaired of. His mother and wife, child and sister are at his bedside.

The fire department is putting up a new line and an alarm box on Wayne street, near the Methodist college. The box is number 38.

The house No. 15 East Jefferson street caught fire from a spark this afternoon and the fire department promptly quenched the blaze. The damage is about \$100 from fire and water. Andrew Bitner resides in the house.

At about five o'clock yesterday afternoon a fire broke out in Wilson & Son's hardware store on Columbia street. The department was promptly on hand and the blaze was extinguished before much damage was done. The loss is not more than \$10.00.

Chief Hilbrecht and his men have invented a novel crossbar to hold the harness over the places where the horses stand when attached to the trucks and engines. By this clever arrangement the horses are relieved of their harness, except when on the run. The harness is so arranged that it can be dropped on the horse in a second and snapped together quicker than it takes to tell it. This scheme will effect a great saving in the expense of the department and Chief Hilbrecht and his clever assistants deserve much praise.

The burning of a quantity of gasoline called the fire department to the fruit store of Thorward & Dendel, on West Columbia street this afternoon.

A summer kitchen, in the rear of a house on Oak street, caught fire this morning and was slightly scorched. The Anthony Wayne engine horses ran out of the engine house before they could be tackled onto the steamer, and ran wild to the scene of the fire. There they were caught and returned.

The fire alarm wires are being re-arranged by Chief Hilbrecht.

The fire department committee will make another effort to sell the Decatur people one of our fire engines.

THE DECATUR FIRE.

The Sentinel contained an article on Tuesday in regard to a destructive fire at Decatur. The particulars are as follows: Tuesday morning at 8 o'clock D. O. Jackson's planing mill and stirrup factory caught fire from a spark. The building is three stories high, and, there being a strong wind, in a short time it was entirely enveloped with flames. The fire spread to the lumber yard adjacent, and from there to the residence of Louis Springer, which was totally destroyed. A tenement house opposite, belonging to John King, was also burned to the ground. At one time there were six or eight houses on fire, some of them six squares from the factory. A general conflagration was expected, but by the heroic efforts of the citizens it was prevented.

D. O. Jackson's planing mill is a total loss, \$10,000. Louis Springer's loss, \$800. John King's house, loss \$400. Indiana House damaged \$100.

The chains in front of the engine house were charged with electricity to-day and the fire laddies were convulsed with laughter as unsuspecting people leaned comfortably on the chains and then executed a somersault.

James C. Peltier, funeral director, is negotiating for the purchase of a fine team of horses from the fire department, to drive in his hearse.

While the Wells street bridge is being built a hose cart will be stationed in Bloomingdale for ready service there.

One of the fire engines acted badly at the Hoagland school fire last evening and was tested after returning to the engine house. It threw a stream that deluged the court house from the old court street cistern.

Yesterday a large barn on the premises of Valentine Fox, who lives out on the Bluffton road, was destroyed by fire, together with its contents, hay, grain, wagons, and agricultural implements. The loss will reach about \$1,500 with only a \$600 insurance on the building. Mr. Fox is an uncle of Louis, Gust and Joseph Fox, of this city.

The fire department was given a big run last evening, the first in three weeks. The call was to box seventeen, and the department had a run to the corner of Butler street and Hoagland avenue, where the Hoagland school building was discovered to be in flames. The school building is a frame structure, two stories and a Mansard slate and tin roof. In the garret, just under the roof, was stored a lot of paper and bundles of crepe bunting, which were inflamed from the extreme heat of the roof. The fire department boys worked manfully and soon had the fire under control. The loss will be about \$3,000. There is an insurance of \$9,500 on the building, so that all losses are fully covered. The building will be repaired immediately.

A petition has been presented to the mayor and chief engineer by the citizens of the ninth ward, praying that an engine and hose cart be stationed somewhere in that ward during the erection of the Wells street bridge, as their property may be invaded by the fire fiend while communication is cut off.

Isaac W. Campbell was in the city yesterday for a few hours, to sign a deed of his East Berry street property to C R. Higgins. Mr. Campbell now resides in Pennsylvania, and his family may shortly remove there. (Isaac was a member of the volunteer fire department in this city.)

William Birdsell will have charge of the hose cart which will be placed at Peter's Box and Lumber company in Bloomingdale, during the construction of the Wells street bridge.

Last evening Mr. A. Wolf, chairman of the fire committee, reported to the council that he had stationed a hose cart, line of hose and four minute men in the Ninth ward during the erection of the Wells street bridge. The council will concur in the action.

CITY COUNCIL.

The chief of the fire department was empowered to employ five minute men to do work on the Alert hook and ladder truck, because that company would not turn out. The estimates for the different municipal departments for the ensuing fiscal year were read. Councilman Wolf reported that it would cost the sum of \$14,500 to run the fire department for the ensuing year.

page 3, col. 2

Huntington Herald: "Mr. George Thieme, of Fort Wayne, a member of the fire department of that city, came down over Sunday, visiting with Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Wallace, of the Second ward, Mrs. Theime has been here for the past two weeks and all returned home this noon."

The use of water at the fire yesterday sent the water in the filter basin down to a very low notch. The situation now is alarming, and in the event of a fire people who know say the supply in the filter basin would not last three hours.

County Commissioner Briant built a fire near the old Wells street bridge yesterday to loosen the earth. He did not thoroughly extinguish the blaze on leaving and soon the old bridge structure was in flames. The fire department ran over there, but had to let the timbers drop in the river. The loss is considerable, as the bottom timbers were to be used for the temporary bridge. Mr. Briant superintends the construction of the bridge.

page 3, col. 4.

Chief Hilbrecht has as yet employed no minute men in accordance with the resolution passed by the council last night.

Chief Hilbrecht has appointed as minute men Ambrose Geary, Si. Lavanway, John Baker, William Schwier and George Fry. One of these men will probably be made a foreman at a monthly salary of \$15. The others will receive \$10 per month each.

The Alert Hook and Ladder Company will pay no more attention to fires, but the organization will continue to exist.

Mrs. Henry Saunders, wife of the member of the fire department, is better. Her child was buried yesterday.

Yesterday Mike Connors was in the service of the fire department twenty-one years, and no more faithful man ever served a city.

Last evening a stable in the rear of the residence of Engineer Tom Tully caught fire and was damaged to the extent of \$200. A buggy and hay and grain “perished” in the flames. Mr. Tully’s horse was taken out. The fire was incendiary and threatened to spread but the firemen subdued it.

The firemen are paving the stalls in the stables connected with the department with cedar blocks.

There was a false alarm of fire this morning.

Mason Long writes to Mike Conners, of the fire department, from Roodhouse, Ill., saying that one of his fine gray horses died the other day. For this team Mr. Long paid \$600 to the city. Of the four fine horses he left here with, Mr. Long now has but one. He has driven 2,700 miles.

Last evening the fire department was called to box 17 in the Sixth ward where stables belonging to J. Sion Smith and Tom O'Hearn were ablaze. Part of the fire department was flushing sewers in the west end and others were at the same work in the east end, so that by the time they got to the fire the stables were almost in ashes. It is quite evident the work of flushing sewers must not be put on the fire department and Councilman Wolf, who is chairman of the fire committee, will raise a vigorous objection to it at the next meeting of the council. Mr. O'Hearn's loss is \$600 and Mr. Smith loses \$400. Both gentlemen hold insurance policies nearly sufficient to cover the loss.

A new cedar block floor has been laid in the engine house stables. The firemen did the work without cost to the city.

A smoke house on the property of Charles A. Munson, on Spy Run avenue, burned early this morning. The loss is about \$20.

There was a fire alarm last evening, at 6 o'clock, and the department made a run to the residence of Mrs. Eix, on West Washington street, where a chimney was on fire. There was no damage done.

Chief Engineer Hilbrecht has moved into a portion of the Graham property, corner of Wayne and Clinton streets. A fire alarm was placed in the house yesterday.

A meadow belonging to George Dukes, near Votaw station, on the Grand Rapids and Indiana road, in Wayne county, caught fire from sparks and despite the utmost efforts of twenty men who were fighting the flames, the fire spread very rapidly, burning the grass, stubble, fences, and everything in its way, and finally reached his stacks of hay, containing about twenty-five tons, which were consumed. Plows were brought into requisition to save the barn and outbuildings, and the fresh dirt thrown proved an effectual barrier to the flames.

Last evening a barn, the property of Joseph Auth, who resides near Hesse Cassel, was destroyed by fire, together with its contents, 300 bushels of oats, 150 bushels of wheat and a quantity of hay and straw. The damage is nearly \$2,000. Mr. Auth is a brother of Henry Auth, who is with Emil Haberkorn.

PANIC STRICKEN.

A little smoke, only a little smoke, has produced a scare among our would-be clothing merchants that is really amusing. Piteous, whining appeals strike the eye in every column of the press, showing to what extent the coming raid in prices by Sam, Pete & Max is feared.

Hold your horses, gentlemen! The profits of the clothing trade will be very thin in Fort Wayne this fall and winter, but lots of fun is in store for the consumer.

Owing to a slight blaze in our third loft a little blue smoke was forced through the button holes of fifty thousand dollars worth of the best of clothing in Fort Wayne. Through the liberality of our insurance friends we have been allowed a damage of 25 per cent on every dollar's worth of stock in our large establishment. Think of it; for every little curl of blue smoke passing over every dollar's worth of goods, 25 cents was deducted from its actual value, not its original cost but present value. Now this reduction we offer the people of Fort Wayne and vicinity for thirty days from the date of reopening. For example: a pair of Jeans pants, worth \$1.00 cost to make 75 cents, will be sold for 60 cents, and so on through the entire stock.

Wait for us; watch the date. Our loss your gain. We expect to sell all the clothing, hats, shirts, etc., sold in Fort Wayne for the next sixty days.

The fire department was called to John street, in the Seventh Ward, this morning, where a barn, the property William Horstmeyer, was destroyed. Loss, \$50. Another barn, belonging to Henry Rust, was also burned down. Loss, \$75.

A leading member of the fire department remarked yesterday: "Before the fire apparatus is distributed the city might as well get something to distribute. The business part of town needs the appliances we now have and with an excellent service the outside wards are as safe as they can possibly be made with our present resources."

The fire department was called to No. 14 Force street, in the Seventh ward, last night, where the tenant house of Mrs. Fred Berleman was in flames. The house was partially destroyed. The loss is about \$500, fully covered by insurance. Chief Hilbrecht found a bundle of saturated rags under the rookery and is satisfied the premises were fired by an incendiary.

A MORNING BLAZE.

At 5:30 this morning the fire department was called to the corner of Wayne and Webster streets, where a small dwelling on the alley between Wayne and Washington streets was ablaze. Engineer James Neal, of the Nickel Plate, lives in the house and arose to light the gasoline stove. He did not notice that the oil had leaked out on the floor during the night, and instantly he was enveloped in flames. His right arm was severely scorched, but other than the blistering of the kitchen no damage was done. The firemen quenched the oil flames. Hon. Wm. Fleming owns the house and holds insurance to cover the loss of \$50 sustained.

George Theime, of the fire department is lying at the point of death.

George Thieme, the fire engine driver, was very sick last night and still his life is despaired of.

The funeral of George Theime occurs Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock from St. John's Lutheran church.

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DEATH OF GEORGE THIEME.

Early this morning George Thieme succumbed to disease and peacefully passed away. About two weeks ago he was taken suddenly ill and grew rapidly worse until his life was despaired of. Mr. Thieme long drove the Anthony Wayne fire steamer, was a valued member of the department, and a young man of exemplary habits. He was a member of the Jeffersonian club and had hosts of friends. Mr. Thieme leaves a wife and two small children, and was a son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Thieme, of Broadway. The engine house is draped in mourning out of respect for the dead fireman.

Resolutions of Respect to the Memory of GEORGE THIEME

FIREMEN'S HALL, FORT WAYNE, Sept. 24. '84.

At a meeting held this evening, the following preamble and resolutions were unanimously adopted: Whereas, The Fort Wayne fire department has lost by the grim sergeant, Death, George Thieme, one of its most loved and active members, the members of the above organization are desirous of giving expression to the respect and esteem we entertained for him while living amongst us, as well as to the feelings of sorrow we experience in his untimely death; therefore.

Resolved. That the Fire Department mourns in the death of George Thieme, one of its bravest and most active members, and one who was over ready to respond to the dread alarm, whether it were noonday or midnight.

Resolved. That whilst we grieve for his departure from amongst us, yet we cannot and will not repine at the will of the Supreme Being who caused his transmigration from our turbulent world to his bosom and his sweet heaven where sorrow is eternally hushed.

Resolved. That our warmest sympathy and condolence be offered to his bereaved family and our prayers ascend to the everlasting God that His benign and gracious comfort and consolation may be given them in this dark hour of grief.

Resolved. That our engine house be draped in mourning for thirty days.

Resolved. That a copy of these resolutions be given to the family of our late brother, and be also published in the daily papers.

Johnnie McGowan,
John Daley,
Emil LeGraw,
 Committee.

RAISE THE LADDER

George Theime, the well known fireman, expired yesterday morning after we went to press. The immediate cause of death was inflammation of the bowels, and such a violent case as to defy medical skill. Deceased was member of the fire department, a native of Fort Wayne and 26 years of age. He has been for the last four years an active and intrepid member of the fire department, for some time driver of the Zollinger engine, and loved and respected by the entire city of Fort Wayne. His associates of the department are deeply grieved and affected by his premature decease.

The sympathy of all classes will be extended to his widow and orphaned children.

The funeral will be conducted by Rev. Mr. Kucher, and will be under the auspices of the fire laddies and the Jeffersonian club, of which Mr. Theime was a member. At 2 p.m. to-morrow, from his home on Clinton street, the services will be held, and his sorrowing friends allowed to gaze upon what was once George Theime.

FORT WAYNE GAZETTE

09/25/1884

Page 3, Col. 1-2.

The engine house is draped appropriately in memory of George Thieme.

A blaze made an abortive attempt to assert itself at the central house yesterday.

There is going to be a new second story floor put in the fire department's quarters. The workmen are now engaged upon it, and will put it in, in such a way as not to impede the movements of the laddies.

The building owned by Judge Carson on West Columbia street, and occupied by an agricultural implement firm, which had the roof injured by a conflagration last week, has been thoroughly repaired by the insurance companies.

The city officers have been invited and will attend the funeral of George Thieme to-morrow afternoon.

FUNERAL OF GEORGE THIEME.

To-morrow afternoon at 2 o'clock the late George Thieme will be laid to rest in the Lutheran cemetery, on South Broadway. The services will be at St. John's church and relatives have selected Gottlieb Steup, John Baker, Simon Boerger, William Schwier, John Daley and Henry Becker as pall bearers.

At a meeting held last evening by the members of the fire department, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

Whereas, The Fort Wayne fire department has lost by death George Thieme, one of its most active members, and being desirous of giving expression to the respect and esteem we entertained for him while being among us, as well as to the sorrow we experience at his death, therefore

Resolved, That the fire department mourns, in the death of George Thieme, one of its most valued members, one who was ever ready to respond to the dread fire alarm, let it be noonday or midnight.

Resolved, That whilst we grieve for his departure from among us, yet we cannot regret his transition from the sufferings of this life to the bosom of his Father and his God.

Resolved, That our warmest and sincere sympathy be offered to his bereaved family, and we pray that the Almighty God may minister to their comfort and consolation in the dark hour of need.

Resolved, That the engine house be draped in mourning for the period of thirty days.

Resolved, That a copy of these resolutions be given the family of the deceased and published in the daily papers of the city.

John McGowan,
John Daley,
Emil LaGraw,
Committee.

September 24, 1884.

FUNERAL RITES OF GEORGE THEIME

The vicinity of the late fireman's home on Clinton street was crowded by his sorrowing friends who gathered yesterday to pay the sad tribute of respect to his memory. At 2 p.m. the band formed in front of the engine house and marched slowly to the residence, the fire department and a battalion of police forming in the rear. The pallbearers placed the casket in the hearse as the band breathed the strains of "Nearer, My God, to Thee."

The cortege formed in the following order: The marshals, the band, the police battalion, the pallbearers, the fire department, the city council and city officials; the hearse and the sorrowing relatives and friends in conveyances.

The band played a beautiful dirge, and led the line of march west on Berry street to Griffith, south on Griffith to Washington, west on Washington to the St. John's Lutheran church.

The casket was reverently borne into the church and placed before the altar, the solemn strains of Lambillotte's funeral march sounded from the organ. The altar and lectern were appropriately draped and the casket was covered with lovely wreaths and crosses composed of perfumed exotics.

The pastor of the church, the Rev. Kucher, conducted the services according to the beautiful ritual of the Lutheran religion. He preached a most eloquent sermon, and spoke feelingly of the sudden demise of the young man, and of his many sterling virtues.

After the sermon, the procession formed again, and escorted the remains to the city limits. The interment was in the cemetery of the church, some miles from town, and was completed at 4 p.m.

The length and demeanor of the concourse that attended the dead fireman, testified to his worth and popularity.

The funeral of George Thieme occurred this afternoon and was the largest held in this city for years. The fire department, city officers, members of the council, the marshals and police were in the cortege, besides hundreds of carriages. The city band led the solemn procession.

The new second story floor of the engine house has been so arranged that the firemen can slide down poles through circular opening. This is Chicago style and quite a good scheme for the sleepers.

This morning a small blaze started in the residence of County Recorder Heller on Spy Run avenue. The Alert Hook & Ladder Truck was run to the house and in a short time the fire was extinguished. The damage was slight.

About 2 o'clock this morning a fire broke out in a barn, belonging to Mrs. John Hough, on Nelson street. The frame was damaged to the extent of \$50. As usual the department was on deck to do effective work.

The Peters Box & Lumber Company has furnished the sleeping rooms on the second floor of the engine house.

The brass sliding poles were put in the engine house yesterday by A. Hattersley & Sons. At the first tap of the bell the firemen can slip down the poles from their cots on the second floor and hustle to their places. The improvement is metropolitan and will hasten things at the engine house.

About 8 o'clock last night the fire department was called to Irishtown to smother a blazing chimney. At 2 o'clock another alarm called the firemen to the residence of D. A. Woodworth, on West Berry street, where an out house was in flames. The loss was slight.

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Messrs. John Cochrane and D. A. Woodworth desire, through the Sentinel, to thank the family of Hon. Wm. Fleming, the police and firemen for their prompt action in quenching the flames on Mr. Woodworth's property last night.

All the unmarried firemen and minute men now sleep in the second floor of the engine house. A dozen neat cots arranged up there and the boys can readily slip down the brass poles. A bath room and clothes' closets are also arranged for the fire boys.

Henry Saunders, the driver of the Alert Hook & Ladder truck, suffers from an injury inflicted by an unwieldy pickaxe.

At 3:30 yesterday morning a fire broke out in Knecht's floral hot house in the east end and before the firemen reached the spot the north end of the conservatory was in flames and the shrubbery and plants enclosed were scorched to a crisp. The celebrated rubber tree, the property of Hon. F. P. Randall, was destroyed, as was also the lemon tree belonging to the same gentleman. Other valuable plants were burned and a considerable loss entailed.

About 8 o'clock Saturday night a fire broke out in the harness shop owned by Casper Neirieter, at No. 86 East Main street. Police Officer Quinn hurried to the engine house and turned in the alarm, but the flames damaged the building and stock to the extent of \$300 before the firemen did effective work. The property is owned by Mrs. George Link and her loss, with that of Mr. Neirieter, is fully covered by insurance. The origin of the fire was incendiary.

The city fire and street department employes were paid to-day. It is quite satisfactory to see these men get their money orders from City Clerk Rockhill and have City Treasurer Berghoff cash them dollar for dollar. This is one of the beauties of operating Fort Wayne on a cash basis.

Early yesterday morning the new frame house of William Shaughnessy, two miles north of Monroeville, took fire from some unexplained cause and was entirely consumed. There was no insurance on the property, and besides losing his new and complete dwelling, Mr. Shaughnessy loses all his provisions, which he had stored within. The loss will not fall short of \$1,000.

The fire department boys were out riding yesterday behind the handsome grey horses. A bus sleigh held the jolly party.

A woodshed on the property of Charles Tresselt burned early Sunday morning. The loss is but \$25.

One of the small boilers attached to the fire engines exploded this morning. The receptacle was wet and while being warmed the chemicals it held exploded and shattered a few panes of glass. A great crowd gathered about the engine house.

Yesterday morning, the fire department had a run to No. 372 South Calhoun street, occupied by Zoellar & Merz, as a grocery store. The establishment caught fire from a defective flue, and it was on fire several times before. The flames were confined principally to an addition built in the rear. The fire caught in a little attic, between the first story ceiling and the roof, and did very considerable damage, the loss being \$200, fully covered by insurance.

The house occupied by John Orff, at No. 171 West Washington street, owned by C. W. Young, caught fire yesterday. The building is a one and a half story frame cottage, and the fire caught from the flue in the second story. The damage was not great, although the carpets and some of the furniture were considerably injured. The building is insured.

Yesterday afternoon at 1:30 o'clock, the Anthony Wayne engine had a run to the corner of Webster and Grand streets. A chimney burned out with no damage to speak of. Mike Conners and Florence Boerger held the ribbons over four horses. Better drivers do not exist.

A FIRE.

Last night, about 7 o'clock, an alarm from box 12, called the department to No. 151 High street. The one story frame dwelling, occupied by Frank Sordelet, caught fire from a defective flue. Some \$200 damage was occasioned. The house was partially destroyed and considerable damage done to furniture. The dwelling is owned by William Pape and fully insured. The fire was difficult to control but the boys got in their work as efficiently as usual.

TWO FIRES.

Yesterday, the fire department had two runs. Box sixteen was sounded. The first fire was at Markey & Mungovan's bakery on Calhoun street. The loss was but \$100 and fully insured.

At 237 Calhoun street, the second conflagration occurred. The building is owned by Mrs. Franz and the damage was slight, about \$5. Chief Hilbrecht says: The fire boys came royally to the front and made things hum in the vicinity. The fire department of Fort Wayne is as efficient as any municipal organization.

An alarm of fire turned in from box 52, at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon, called the department to the residence of M. L. Barbour, at No. 30 East Berry street. A couple of barrels in the basement containing hot ashes, scorched the upper floor, and that was all.

John Schrader, the popular fireman, returned yesterday, from the World's Fair at New Orleans. While in the Crescent City he was looked after by the leading fire boys there and entertained.

A SUBURBAN BLAZE.

H. W. LOVELAND'S FINE \$4,000 RESIDENCE BURNED TO THE GROUND
AT A TOTAL LOSS.

Yesterday morning, about 9 o'clock the residence of Hezekiah W. Loveland one half mile west of New Haven burned to the ground. The fire originated in an upper room from a defective flue. The farm house is one of the finest in Allen County and was erected at a cost of \$4,000. In a bureau drawer was \$80 in money which was destroyed with the entire furniture and fittings of Mr. Loveland's home. The loss is fully covered by insurance.

Mr. Loveland is well-known in Fort Wayne as a purveyor of watermelons during the season of that luscious fruit. His daughter is Mrs. Rine Caps.

A BLAZE.

Last evening, at seven o'clock the fire department was called to the corner of Harrison and Berry streets. The house of Michael Baltes was on fire. The ignition occurred in a closet in a front room on the second floor occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Baltes as a sleeping apartment. How it originated is a mystery as there is no stove in the room or chimney leading therefrom. The department were promptly on deck and very quickly extinguished the flames, throwing little water and making only the necessary havoc with their axes. The loss will be about \$50. Mr. Baltes is insured.

THE COUNCIL.

The fire committee reported in favor of establishing eight new fire alarm boxes at the following street corners: Columbia and Barr streets, Columbia and Harrison, Washington and Barr, Berry and Clay, Wayne and Webster, Creighton avenue and Hanna, Calhoun and Williams, Broadway and Wilt.

A BLAZE.

Last night at 8 o'clock, the fire bell rang and there were two alarms sent in from boxes 24 and 27. The firemen made a quick run to Comparet street, and extinguished the flames, which were devouring the barn and shed belonging to Julius Tonne. A valuable cow was taken out of the blazing barn and escaped with a mere singeing. The entire loss amounts to \$250, so we are informed by Chief Hilbrecht.

PAPER UNKNOWN

03/09/1885

* A frame barn back of the Hedekin House burned. Old Landmark. Built in 1855 was destroyed by fire. The barn belonged to Weil Brothers.

FORT WAYNE DAILY GAZETTE

Tuesday

03/10/1885

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A small fire occurred at White's Wheel Works last night. A wheelbarrow caught fire in some way and a lot of hoops ignited. The loss was trifling and the fire department were not summoned.

FORT WAYNE DAILY GAZETTE

Wednesday

03/11/1885

Page 6, Col. 2.

At about 7:30 yesterday morning an alarm was turned in from box 5-2, to which the department responded with its usual alacrity. It was found that the east wing of the old Mayer house was in flames, and before the fire could be subdued about \$500 damage was done. It is supposed the blaze originated from a defective flue.

Last evening an alarm from box 52 called the department to the east end, where a frame barn belonging to Oscar Simons burned, at a loss of about \$75. The firemen very promptly arrived and accomplished excellent service. The barn was located near the soap factory along the line of the Nickel Plate. Little water was thrown, but the hook and ladder boys got in their fine work. Chief Hilbrecht was on the scene and did himself great credit.

A barn belonging to Oscar A. Simons, located on Glasgow avenue, burned Wednesday night. The building was totally consumed. Mr. Simons' loss will not exceed \$100.

Florence Boerger, the popular fireman and driver of the engine "Franklin P. Randall" resigned his position last night to accept one as fireman on the Pittsburg. Florence was one of the best firemen on the city force and the Gazette regrets to learn of his retirement.

There was no fire at the Mayer House yesterday. The department made a run, but it appears a "smart aleck" had turned in an alarm when he saw a cloud of black smoke ascending from the Sentinel's chimney.

Yesterday evening the fire committee appointed Jim Klinger as driver in place of Florence Boerger, resigned. Mr. Klinger has been employed by Powers & Barnett for years and can handle the ribbons like a jockey.

J. A. Allen, of New York, who has been drafting a fire map of Fort Wayne, will finish his labors Tuesday. Mr. Allen is a very clever gentleman and has made many friends during his stay in Fort Wayne.

ROAST BEEF.

A BARN BURNED WITH THREE VALUABLE COWS AND A HORSE.

Yesterday morning, the barn of John Walker, of Madison township, caught fire it is thought from fire dropped from the pipe of a hired man. The barn was a fine one costing over \$1,000 and was totally destroyed.

Mr. Walker had just bought three Jersey cows worth \$300 a piece and a \$200 horse. The animal were burned so badly that they had to be shot and relieved of their misery. The family were at church and on their return the barn was a charred ruin. Mr. Walker came to town last evening and reported his loss to the insurance agency. His loss is only partially covered by the underwriters. Only a year ago Mr. Walker's barn burned.

THROUGH FIRE.

AN OLD MAN NAMED EIX ATTEMPTS TO GO TO THE UPPER OR
LOWER REGIONS IN A BLAZE OF GLORY — HE ATTEMPTS TO CREMATE
HIMSELF AT THE HORSESHOE RESTAURANT.

Yesterday afternoon there was a sensation in the neighborhood of Barr street. For a couple of days a countryman by the name of Eix has been stopping at the "Horseshoe" boarding house. The old man is known to the police, and occasionally bowls up heavily. Yesterday he went to his room, sat down on the floor and placed a bundle of kindling wood and a lot of newspapers about him, setting fire to the inflammable mass. The smell of smoke smote the nostrils of the proprietor, who, with a servant, rushed up in time to save Eix from a scorching, which might have been more painful than a dose of brimstone in the hot locality popularly known as Hades. Eix was taken down stairs, and beyond a few slight burns and a gash on the hand, was in shape. He had been hitting the bottle and thought he had a call to cremate himself.

COMBUSTION.

FLAMES TEAR THE RAMSHACKLE OLD MAYER HOUSE TO PIECES
AN OLD "LANDMARK" WHICH IS NEARLY WIPED OUT, AND OUGHT TO BE.

Yesterday morning at 4:30 o'clock after the Gazette was on the press, an alarm of fire called the vigilant fire department to the extreme west end of Berry street, where the brick barn of Hon. Wm. Fleming was discovered on fire. The roof was destroyed and other damage done, and about \$200 will fix things. The insurance is \$1,000, and A. H. Carrier carries it.

While Mr. Fleming's barn was wrapped in a few flames another alarm was sent in, and the Mayer house was discovered undergoing its third baptism of fire. The Mayer house has now been attacked by the very warm element three times, and it is a dead sure case of incendiarism. Nasty rumors were about the streets yesterday, but we prefer to wait before giving them credence. It is however, plain that coal oil was strewn about the house lately repaired and to have been completed this week as a European hotel and restaurant. We remember a mysterious person who hung about the house, and who dined with the guests. One morning a Gazette reporter saw the fellow in a silk lined dressing gown and patent leather slippers making a feint to mop the wash-room floor. The reporter asked who the dudish person was and was told that it was a yardman. After the second fire this young man remained, but hasn't lately been seen. He is alleged to have been a college graduate in hard luck from Chicago.

The hotel is a wreck and can not be rebuilt. The firemen should have put the hook and ladder truck to sharp work and leveled the old "landmark." It was no good to anyone and has not been for some years.

Mr. G. J. E. Mayer and wife have been absent, but were telegraphed yesterday to return at once, and will be here to-day. We condole with Mr. Mayer, who is a first-class boniface and has had much trouble of late.

Last week \$8,500 insurance was placed on the property by Mr. D. C. Fisher, at request of Mr. C. H. Nix's agent, Mr. Mayor, in the following companies: American, of Newark, Pa.; Fire; Transatlantic, of Germany; Insurance Co. of North America; Queen of London; each \$1,000; Washington, of Boston; Guardian, of London; \$500 each. All the above was on the building which with the lot was owned by G. H. Nix, the Chicago capitalist. Mrs. G. J. E. Mayer owned the furniture and fixtures and her loss is covered by \$2,500 thus distributed: Germania, New York, \$1,000; Trans-Atlantic of Germany, \$750; British American, \$750. J. E. Graham carried four of the above companies; F. P. Randall, two; and A. H. Carrier and D. C. Fisher one each. They inform us that adjusters will be here to-day in response to telegrams.

THE FIRE LIMITS.

THEY SHOULD BE AT ONCE EXTENDED — FIRE TRAPS GOING UP IN ALL PARTS OF THE IMMEDIATE SUBURBS OF FORT WAYNE.

The council should at once take measures to extend the fire limits. All over the crowded portions of the city outside the present defined fire limits, there are arising frame timber boxes which could be set ablaze by a cigar stump carelessly thrown. Someday there will be a tremendous conflagration and property to the amount of thousands of dollars will go up in smoke. Many of these fire traps are located near to stately brick residences and valuable business blocks.

John T. Downey, esq., general agent of the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company, with headquarters in this city, is yet a member of the common council of Indianapolis. The following ordinance introduced by him is yet in vogue, and a similar one might most advantageously be adopted in Fort Wayne. It reads:

An ordinance making it unlawful to erect wooden buildings within certain limits in the city of Indianapolis, regulating certain matters pertaining thereto, and repealing all ordinances in conflict herewith.

Section 1. Be it ordained by the common council and board of aldermen of the city of Indianapolis. That it shall be unlawful for any person to erect or cause to be erected within the limits of Vermont, Noble, South and West streets, in the city of Indianapolis, any building, the outer walls of which shall be composed of wood. It shall likewise be unlawful for any person to alter, repair or rebuild any frame or wooden building within said limits, the estimated cost of which shall be three hundred dollars or more, or make any addition to any building already erected in said limits, unless all of the exposed parts of said structure shall be composed of brick stone or iron: Provided, That the foregoing provision shall not apply to privies less than ten feet high. And provided further, that if the written consent of the chief fire engineer and members of the board of public improvements shall be given to any one to erect, repair, rebuild, or add to any such building, with material compose of wood, outside of Ohio, East Georgia and Missouri streets, and within the boundaries aforesaid, the provisions aforesaid shall not apply; and unless such written consent is exhibited and turned over to the city clerk, said officer shall not, in any case, issue any permit to erect, repair, rebuild or add to any such wooden building within the limits first above set out.

Any one violating any provision in this section shall be fined in any sum not exceeding one hundred dollars; and each day any one shall work or direct or cause work to be done on any such wooden building, in violation of the foregoing provisions, shall constitute a separate offense. And any building erected in violation of the foregoing provisions shall be condemned by the mayor on complaint of any citizen, and in the order of condemnation the mayor shall direct the same to be torn down by the street commissioner, and the costs thereof to be collected from the owner thereof.

Charley Thieme, of the fire department, will soon wed a charming lady of East Berry street.

Yesterday afternoon, at 1 o'clock, an alarm from box 16, called the fire department to a frame oil shed belonging to the Wabash company, east of the depot. The roof caught fire from an engine spark, but the blaze was easily extinguished, at a loss of five dollars.

* The remaining walls of the old Mayer House, Wayne and Calhoun street were leveled to the ground by the fire department.

A FIRE TRAP.

THE FRAME BUILDING ON WEST MAIN STREET, OCCUPIED BY THORWARD, THE FRUIT MAN, NEARLY DESTROYED BY FLAMES.

Last night at 12 o'clock the firemen had a call to the frame building next the Custer House, on West Main street. A blaze broke out suddenly in this fire trap, and but for the good work of the firemen the blaze would not have been confined and extinguished. Theodore Thorward was the occupant of the portion below stairs and ran the "Annex Fruit house." The entire stock of tropical fruits and peanuts carried by him was so well roasted as to be worthless. The loss to Mr. Thorward can not at this writing be accurately estimated.

On the second floor of the shanty a young man named Henry Piepenbrink had a small job printing office. His stuff too, was well melted and there will be no type-juggling thereabouts for many a day. The place should, like the Mayer house, be hauled down at once. There is no insurance.

Chief Hilbrecht informed us later that the loss will amount to about \$300. The building is owned by Robert Stratton, esq.

A BLAZE AT BUTLER.

On Friday night a considerable fire occurred at Butler, our neighboring village about twenty miles from the city. The conflagration started about 10 o'clock in Tyson's butcher shop, which was consumed by the fiery elements with all its contents. Millinery, grocery, hardware stores adjoining were also destroyed. The loss was heavy and the insurance is only partial. At Butler they have no fire engine and had to rely on buckets and a hard rain storm which providentially arose, to save the entire business portion of Main street

Yesterday, Jones the photographer, burned some straw in his store. Owing to a defective chimney the smoke instead of going into the open air went down the flue and into the Hamilton bank which was the occasion of an alarm to the fire department. Happily no water was thrown and when doors and windows were thrown open the place was quickly purified. A big crowd gathered including the Gazette man who expected to rescue a few \$1,000 bills from the devouring element.

A \$200 BLAZE.

Last evening about 11 o'clock the old slaughtering house formerly occupied by A. Wolf, located near Eckart's packing house burned. No alarm was sent in and Chief Hilbrecht, who perceived the lurid glow on the horizon sent a hose cart in that direction. The shed, for that is about all it is, was totally destroyed. Whether Mr. Wolf had any insurance we are not informed. The fire is supposed to have been incendiary as a gang of tramps camp out in the vicinity and light their fires in the vicinity of the burned building and other packing houses.

A \$200 BLAZE.

Last evening fire was discovered in the office of Dr. Causland in the rear of W. L. Moellering's drug store, on the corner of Lewis and Lafayette streets.

The room was easy of access and the flames were quickly subdued by several buckets of water without necessitating a call of the fire department. The doctor lost some \$200 worth of surgical instrument and his costly reclining chair.

A STIFF BLAZE.

L. O. HULL'S STOCK OF WALL PAPERS CONSIDERABLY DAMAGED BY A GAS EXPLOSION IN THE CELLAR.

Yesterday afternoon at 4:30 o'clock the fire department were summoned by an alarm from box 52 to 88 Calhoun street, Mr. L. O. Hull's wallpaper and decorating establishment. It appears that one of Mr. Hull's employes went down cellar and lit a gas burner. The gas had leaked and there was a flash and an explosion, resulting in a blaze of good proportions. The stock of wall paper, etc., was damaged to about the sum of \$1,000, so far as can be estimated at present. The damage to the building was slight, the dense smoke and the two streams of water doing the principal damage. The loss is covered by insurance.

Fifteen years ago there was a similar explosion of gas in the cellar of this building and Fred Helzeman (Hilsman), a fireman, lost his life, and Ferd. F. Boltz, John Downey and others then members of the department, were injured.

THE FIRE KING

SWOOPS DOWN UPON RANKE & YERGENS' STAVE & HEADING FACTORY
THE LOSS \$10,000, COVERED BY \$3,200 INSURANCE - A GALLANT FIGHT
BY HILBRECHT'S STURDY LADDIES.

Last night, at 11:30 o'clock, a prolonged whistle extending into a very scream of steam, from the engine room of Ranke & Yergen's stave and heading factory, corner of Griffith and Superior streets, caused the department to make one of the best runs on record, there. When the place was reached it was found that the man who acts as watchman and fireman, named William Dickmeyer, had been unable to call the department, as the fire alarm box near by was in bad repair.

When Hilbrecht and his entire force arrived the main building was wrapped in flames, and the glare illuminated nearly the whole city. Three streams were put on, but owing to the unavoidable delay in sending the alarm, some \$10,000 worth of property, including the firm's large building, a frame structure of two stories, was destroyed totally. The hook and ladder force tore away the debris and threw out about a ton of headings, all by hand. The water was drawn out of the boilers quickly and the fire in the furnaces extinguished.

This terrible conflagration was started by a spark from the furnace igniting a pile of dry shavings thrown down when the factory closed in order to light the fires for this (Friday's) work, which is postponed sine die.

A Gazette reporter was promptly on the spot and viewed the smouldering ruins. Chief Hilbrecht was on deck directing his men who saved some \$10,000 worth of lumber by efforts nothing less than herculean. Messrs. Wm. Ranke and Wm. Yergens the owners, were viewing their loss with blanched faces and said that the exact amount of insurance was \$32,000, the policies all placed in the companies represented by Sidney C. Lumbard. This firm started nineteen years ago, January 5, of this year. They will at once rebuild.

Sixty-three men are thrown out of employment by the destruction of the factory, machinery, etc. Not until 4 o'clock this morning did the firemen leave the spot.

A FIRE AT LAGRO.

A \$15,000 BLAZE AT A SUBURB OF FORT WAYNE.

At 1 o'clock yesterday morning a telephone message was received from LaGro, 20 miles east, asking for aid, and saying, "The town is burning up." The Wabash fire department hurried to the scene. The fire was confined to the large furniture factory and lumber yards of H. McNow & Son. Had there been any wind stirring the town would have been swept. The fire was first discovered near the boiler-house, and nothing could be done by the terrified inhabitants to check the progress of the flames. Women and children assisted in carrying water from the river. The town is without fire protection of any kind. The building burned was fifty by sixty feet; a frame with a wing. Eighty thousand feet of lumber was also destroyed. The loss is \$15,000, with an insurance of \$3,000. The cause of the fire is not known. The Wabash fire department saved the town from destruction.

Chief Hilbrecht has thoroughly reorganized the fire alarm system and thirty-seven alarm boxes now hang about the city. The boxes are admirably arranged and in districts most liable to fire.

Andy Thieme, of the fire department, will soon lead to the hymenial altar Miss. Annie, the eldest daughter of Hon. Henry Immel. The young couple have already furnished their apartments.

Charlie Thieme, of the fire department, was heartily congratulated by his friends yesterday on his approaching marriage to Miss. Annie Immel.

Miss. Annie, the charming daughter of Hon. Henry Immel, was married Sunday evening, to Charles F. W. Thieme, son of the Broadway grocer. The ceremony was performed by Rev. Kucher, of St. Johns Lutheran church in the presence of a large number of friends. The young couple have commenced housekeeping in the Immel block, on East Berry street.

Christ Royhans, of the fire department, will soon be married to a Bloomingdale belle.

Chief Hilbrecht reported that swinging harness for all fire department horses would cost \$200. Referred to the committee on fire department.

Wednesday afternoon the barn and stabling on the farm of John Felger, about nine miles southeast of the city, in Marion township, caught fire through some unknown cause. By the united efforts of the neighbors the live stock was rescued, and the flames subdued at a late hour. The barn contained about 500 shocks of wheat and twenty tons of hay and several new agricultural implements, the whole being rendered useless.

Joseph Fry, of the fire department, will have an operation performed on him at the St. Joe hospital to-day. He has ulcers on his breast, which will be lanced.

The fire engine house and police station were tastily draped in black to-day out of respect for the memory of General Grant.

Next Sunday there will be a wrestling match between Chris Royhans and John Baker, of the fire department for \$5 a side. Whether Greco-Roman or catch as catch can is not stated.

A \$1,000 BLAZE.

The fine stable on the farm of David Swank, in Pleasant township, burned last night with all its contents – 400 bushels of wheat, 100 bushels of corn, two horses and farming implements. His loss is \$1,000.

Charley Becker was given a handsome gold badge by the members of Hose company No. 3, of which the gallant fireman is foreman. Mr. Becker did the royal act to his friends.

CITY COUNCIL.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FIRE DEPARTMENT.

1. We have made contract with the Gamewell-Fire Alarm Telegraph company for a new bell striker, and sold the old bell striker to the same party for fifty dollars.
2. Adverse to the resolution of Councilman Michael for selling the Seventh ward engine house, we would recommend that the committee on public grounds and buildings have said building removed at once to the southwest corner of said lot.
3. In favor of having the chief of the fire department instructed to purchase the swinging harness for the fire department.

W. Doehrman,
Peter J. Schied, Com.
H. A. Read.

There was a blaze at the home of Wm. Heinlein, No. 306 South Harrison street, yesterday morning. The fire department ran to the scene. The damage is but \$15.

The fire department ran to Bass street last night and saved from total destruction a barn owned by Mrs. Eliza Beegan. The loss will aggregate \$100. It is covered by insurance.

ACCIDENT AT A FIRE.

A blazing pile of shavings called the fire department to the St. Mary's Catholic church at noon. En route to the fire a hose cart collided with the hook and ladder truck. Asa Lewis was thrown from the truck and Driver Driebelbiss from the cart. No damage.

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DESTRUCTIVE FIRE.

KINSEY, THE NEW TOWN ON THE NICKEL PLATE ROAD, ALMOST DESTROYED.

From the few particulars received, says the Warsaw Times, it is learned that the new town of Kinsey, located in the southeastern part of Kosciusko county, on the Nickel Plate railroad, was almost destroyed by a fire Tuesday afternoon. The destruction, for a new town, was very great. A barn, the depot, several houses and about \$800 worth of lumber, belonging to Ol Matthews, of Warsaw, were destroyed. The information in reference to the fire was very meager, but the above embraces all that has so far been learned.

There was a blaze in the house of Fred Barthold, at No. 80 Baker street, yesterday. A hole was burned in the roof of the building. The fire department responded, but did not use water.

The barn of a farmer, named Tapp, of St. Joe township, burned last night together with all its contents.

A FURIOUS FIRE.

IT THREATENS WHOLE BLOCKS FOR OVER AN HOUR.

THE IMMENSE WARE ROOMS OF S. BASH & CO. ENTIRELY DEVASTATED

GOSSIP AND INCIDENTS OF THE BIG BLAZE.

Just before 7 o'clock last evening the quiet was broken by the shrill tap of the fire bell, followed by the muffled alarm of the gong within, summoning the department to box 62, at the Robinson, corner Harrison and Columbia streets. The Sentinel representative stood in front of the engine house and followed the fire laddies to the ware house and grain elevator of S. Bash & Co., at Nos. 24 and 25 West Columbia street, where dense volumes of smoke issued from the front windows, the chimneys and sky lights of the building. In a few seconds and before the firemen could attach the hose to Lowry hydrants, a blaze shot from the upper story and made brilliant the heavens. Two streams of water were instantly directed into the windows and to the roof, but they seemed to only increase the fury of the angry flames. The smoke came out from every crevice, in dark, swift rolls, and with almost force enough to dash the water back into the faces of the firemen in the streets below. Nothing daunted by the progress of the flames, the department closed in on the fire and poured water onto the blazing timbers.

Then would the flames gather, smother for a while and shoot high into the air, carrying with them blazing cinders, which fell harmless near by, as no wind prevailed to waft them to destructive points. The fire was then steadily eating its way from the front store rooms to the elevator in the rear and it looked as though the immense grain receptacle was doomed. The west wall of the front room split into two parts from the roof to the foundation, about this time, and the fire shot in and out of this crevice with the swiftness of lightning. In the face of this threatening wall the firemen marched on it and sent a third stream to the south end of the elevator, the idea being to confine the destruction to the front part, which was divided from the elevator by a twelve-inch wall. Even this plan, well conceived and proper as it was, did not promise much good, for the fire had by this time obliterated the tin roof and the building could be likened unto a huge blast furnace, the severity of which three streams of water but increased. Thus ran the fire for about an hour and a half, but the boys never relaxed an effort. Three men ascended the grain elevator from the inside, although smoke issued from it and their exit was threatened by fire from below. Their business was to locate the seat of the fire in front and direct the water to it. Occasionally their scheme succeeded, but again the flames would leap out with renewed rage, licking the top timbers and threatening not only the elevator, but the oil mill, belonging to the same firm in a new building, just adjoining it. There was a mortal dread of that calamity, because the burning of the oil mill meant annihilation to the surrounding blocks. In the meantime the fire had exhausted its material and then alone did the water assert its supremacy, so that in an hour and three quarters after the alarm bell tapped, the fire was under control and the elevator and the oil mill were saved from total destruction. This did not end the work of the firemen, who all night long threw water on the smouldering ruins, which oft and on would blaze up afresh.

The firm is styled S. Bash & Co., and is composed of Mr. Sol. Bash and his sons, Messrs. Charley S., Winfield S. and Willis Bash, and Peter Smyser. The house does the most extensive grain, seed and commission business in Northern Indiana and the fire last night will not retard their trade as the elevator was started this morning, its big furnace blazed and S. Bash & Co., are at the old stand to buy anything in their line. This is enterprise.

A tour of the burned double building this morning revealed the destructive work of the fire. Most of the heavy cross timbers were in ashes and the second and third floors were completely gutted. In the building was stored rags, wool, feathers, seed and various other articles and commodities. The fire began in the second floor of the west side and originated from spontaneous combustion, as that is the only way the owners can account for it.

Messrs. Bash & Co., have a force of men cleaning out the burned building. They now attribute the fire to spontaneous combustion; in fact employees assorting hides in the basement of the building yesterday did not know of the fire until water was directed on it. "We will rebuild," said Mr. Bash as soon as the insurance men adjust our loss, which we now estimate at something less than \$30,000. "We cannot tell exactly, but the damage will not exceed the sum named."

Beside the stock of S. Bash & Co., Peter Certia and Fred C. Roltz had 380 bushels of Bohemian oats stored in the ware room. This grain they valued at \$10 a bushels or \$3,800 altogether. Bash & Co. are responsible for the storage according to the terms of their agreement, but whether the insurance adjusters will pay that sum is a question, although Mr. Certia remarked, "We were as sure as daylight to get \$10 for every bushel we had."

There was an insurance of \$25,500 on the burned wareroom, the elevator and the stock. But three days ago, \$10,000 of this amount was placed on the building and the stock, as the firm anticipated storing large quantities of grain for the winter trade. The insurance rate is very high and the firm paid dearly for the risk. The insurance is all in the agency of S. C. Lumbard and is divided as follows: Liverpool, London and Globe, \$8,000 on the building; Fire Association of Philadelphia, \$3,000 on stock; Royal, of London, \$4,000; London Lancashire, \$3,000; North British and Mercantile, \$2,000; Niagara, of New York, \$2,000; Home, of New York, \$2,000 and the German American, \$1,500.

The site of the present ruined ware room is ill fated. About the years 1855 and 1856 John E. Hill and Alexander M. Arbison conducted a ware house on the same spot. In the years named the building caught fire and was burned to the ground. Mr. Arbison lives in Michigan and will read The Sentinel's account of the fire last night with much interest.

SPARKS.

Here's our Chief Hilbrecht.

Win Bash runs a horse collar manufactory next to the oil mill.

John Liechner, Harry Hammell and the keepers of other public houses in the vicinity did great business.

Five hundred people looked at the fire and not a few of them were ducked by the exhaust or relief valve in the hose.

The girls were out in force and seemed to convert the occasion into a sort of picnic. They had bushels of fun in the crowd.

Charley Bash was the first member of the firm at the scene of the fire. He was cool, but feared the elevator would go.

Mayor Muhler, Captain Diehl, Hon. Jesse L. Williams and Captain Hettler stood in the street in front of the blazing building.

The insurance of \$25,500 does not represent half the value of the ware rooms, elevator and stock. It is all the firm could afford to carry.

The grain elevator is built of pine wood save the brick wall that divides it from the ware room and slate siding and roof. It would have made a frightful fire.

If the Bash oil mill had caught fire the whole block might have been destroyed, counting on the paint store and drug store to go in the event of an explosion.

The water works acted like a charm and during the fire there was a pressure of 110 and 115 pounds to the square inch. An engine was added to the force when it became necessary to cover the high elevator with a stream. It would not be right to close without complimenting the heroic work of the fire department and The Sentinel will not cease to shower encomiums on Chief Hilbrecht and as gallant a set of firemen as ever pointed nozzles on a blaze. They worked quietly, but with pluck and a determination to win, which they did right nobly, too.

THE BASH FIRE..

An adjuster representing the Liverpool, London and Globe Insurance company arrived in the city to-day. It was in this company the Bash warehouse buildings and fixtures were insured for \$8,000 and he comes here to square the claim that the Messrs. Bash can at once re-build. In addition to the \$25,500 insurance held in the Lumbard agencies, D. L. Harding held \$6,000 on the building and stock, making the total insurance \$31,500.

THE SABBATH FIRE.

The department was summoned yesterday afternoon to the rear of W. H. Miller's grocery store where an out house blazed up. A stream of water quenched the fire, but at 11 o'clock last night it was fired again and a second time the firemen smothered it. A few boys in the neighborhood did the work. The damage will not exceed \$10.

George Strodel, Charles Sheldon, Rine Caps and Judge Sinclair left this afternoon on a duck slaughtering expedition to West Lake. Just what the judge accompanies the party for we don't know, for the writer don't believe he knows how to discharge a gun.

A MIDNIGHT BLAZE.

Last night a fire originated in the Union block, at the southeast corner of Clinton and Main streets and soon smoke issued from the old building in black rolls. The firemen got at the place about 12 o'clock and promptly quenched the blaze. The damage from fire will not exceed \$900, but the water did much injury. Capt Beadley's Delmonico restaurant was drenched. Mrs. Polly Schilling's millinery store, Chausse & Yettie's second hand store and John Trott's candy store were all soaked. Inmates of the upper floors also suffered losses, but everything is covered by insurance,

"The Firemens' Home, 24 East Berry street, Fort Wayne, E. W. Lindeman, proprietor, is the finest resort in that city, for the thirsty. Billy is a genial host and his friends are — legion. "Gus," his good-looking assistant, is very polite and attentive," says C. A. Alvord, in the Albion Democrat.

A BAD FIRE IN A DRUG STORE.

The drug store of Henry Rienewald, at the corner of Calhoun and Grand street, is a total wreck. At 12 o'clock last night an explosion occurred in the rear of the building and quicker than it takes to tell it the whole room was ablaze. When the fire department came the flames were in the second story. The building belonged to Mr. Tim Hogan, and was insured for \$1,500. The damage is about \$500. The stock of drugs is valued at \$1,000 and insured for \$1,500. The fire looked like the work of an incendiary, but The Sentinel prefers to believe it accidental, on the word of Dr. Fiser, who left the store all right. Mr. Reinewald was at Chicago but hastened home to-day. Inmates of the second story were smoked out in a hurry. They say two men ran from the building when the blaze was started by an explosion.

The new bell striker to be used in the tower of the engine house has arrived and will be put in place at once.

At 5:40 last evening fire was discovered in a small story and a half frame dwelling, at No. 34 Oliver street, a remote portion of the Seventh ward. The building belongs to Mrs. Lauer, a widow, and was damaged only to the extent of \$25.

A gasoline stove at the residence of W. H. Dreier, on Superior street, blazed up at six o'clock this morning and frightened the family. The fire department ran to the scene, but a quilt had smothered the harmless flames.

A HUMAN ROAST.

FORTY OF THE NORTHERN INDIANA FAIR STABLES REDUCED TO ASHES
AND A TRAMP CREMATED IN THE BLAZE.

Shortly after 8 o'clock last night a blaze shot up west of the city and brightened the heavens. The fire department responded and quickly were at the fair grounds, where the stables along the river, behind and to the north of the grand stand, were blazing with great fury. The firemen could not reach the river, and the best they could do was to tear a gap in the line of stables and stay the flames. This they did, with the assistance of what water they could carry in buckets from the river. Forty stables were then in ashes, and in one of them a gastly sight met the eye.

The charred and lifeless trunk of a man lay roasting in the midst of a heap of ashes. His lower limbs were burned entirely off to the hip joints. His arms were obliterated to the shoulder joints, and the top of his skull had crumbled to dust in the flames. The clothes were burned from his body and nothing was left but the human trunk. The flesh was melted from it and the poor fellow's heart, lungs and entrails protruded through the bones and muscles in crimped, knotted and twisted lumps and from this steaming mass of flesh a sickening odor came. The ill-shapen remnants were dragged from the ruins and carted to Peltier's mortuary rooms where disinfectants were spilled on them to make them bearable in the neighborhood. The police pulled another man from the fire with his hands blistered and arrested another member of the gang of tramps who stood by. The fellows were beastly drunk and had to be carted away.

Griffin, the tramp who was pulled from a blazing stall in a drunken stupor, was questioned this morning but does not know the dead man. The fellows were all drunk and in the racket that followed the stables were fired. Some people advance the theory that the burned tramp was murdered and then cremated but this does not hold as his body lay a long distance from the origin of the fire. A tramp named John H. Willis, who stood on the bridge, saw a man leave one of the stalls and stumble down the river bank. The fellow got away in the darkness. Coroner Dinnen held an inquest on the dead man, and will declare his fate accidental. The ugly chunk of the burned body will be planted in Lindenwood as "Unknown," and thus ends his career.

The loss of the Fair association will reach \$1,000, and but an insurance of \$300 is on the buildings destroyed.

Dr. J. M. Dinnen visited the scene of the conflagration this afternoon. He tells us that the man Griffin referred to above confessed his name was Ed Healy. The fellow cannot recollect a thing about the fire or does not want to.

The new bell striker in the engine house tower is in its place and tolled the noon hour yesterday. The time is regulated from the jewelry house of H. C. Graffe, and is always correct.

The Seventh ward engine house is finished up to the second story and will be under roof and ready for use in a month.

Someone set fire to the stable in the rear of Lew Clark's Oliver house last night and the structure was gutted. The walls stand. The barn was of brick and both new and commodious. It had been erected at a cost of \$1,000 and there was an insurance of \$800 in the Harding agency, enough to repair all the losses or to rebuild the structure.

The fire alarm bell is now in perfect order and strikes the noon hour. Its time is regulated from the jewelry house of H. C. Graffe into which run railroad wires recording time with the utmost accuracy.

Sunday afternoon the barn of William Schaefer, a well known farmer of Wayne township, burned to the ground. Eight head of sheep, a calf, reaper and mower, grain drill and many other farming implements, and a large quantity of hay and straw were consumed.

Last night the old Pickard stove foundry caught fire and fanned by the gale of wind that prevailed at the time was soon in ashes. The shops were not utilized, Mr. J. H. Bass acquired them long ago by foreclosure, Chief Hilbrecht estimates the loss at \$2,500, but cannot tell as to the insurance. The shops will not be rebuilt.

Chief Hilbrecht is putting into use swinging harness in the fire engine house. It saves the leather and horses.

The fire department committee of the council has decided to sell the old hand engine to Conway, Ohio. Col. E. L. Chittenden has reminiscences about the engine.

* Knapp Homestead, first house south of Pontiac on east side of Fairfield avenue burns. Steamer could not get water from Shawnee Run. A creek in the section.

The Seventh ward engine house will shortly be ready for occupancy. Mike Connors and Coony Dreibelbiss will be transferred up there from the Second ward house. Mr. Connors will be engineer of the Silsby engine and Mr. Dreibelbiss will drive the hose cart. An additional engine driver and two minute men will be employed at the new engine house.

The council will inspect the Seventh ward engine house to-morrow. Chief Hilbrecht will promote Louis Steup to driver of a hose cart, up there, and employ another man to turn the hook and ladder truck.

The council has virtually accepted the new Seventh ward engine house. Messrs. Mike Connors, Conrad Dreibelbiss and Steup have moved to the Seventh ward. The gentlemen will have charge of the new house, which is connected with the central engine rooms and every fire alarm will be sounded simultaneously in both houses.

Geo. Meyers will loose nearly \$500 on the Seventh ward engine house. The city yet owes him \$1,040, but his workmen appeared before the mayor this morning and filed claims for more than that sum. The contract price for the new engine house was very low, it being \$2,900.

The workmen for George Meyers, builder of the Seventh ward engine house, will have to content themselves with a pro rata share of the money now due the contractor from the city.

A fire was discovered in the grocery of Pearse & Coverdale on Harrison street, at midnight. The department ran down and quenched the blaze. The damage is not over \$100.

Chief Hilbrecht this morning took charge of the new Seventh ward engine house and sent Engineer Mike Connors, engine driver Louis Steup, hose cart driver, Coney Dreibelbiss, to man the house No. 2. The house is on the wires with the Second ward engine house and alarms are sounded simultaneously in both engine rooms.

“Chief Henry Hilbrecht, M. V. Welsh, George Strodel, Fred. Michaels, Charley Baker, Charley Sheldon and William Lindemann, of the Fort Wayne department were in the city Thursday and expressed disappointment because they were unable to assist. Our people fully appreciate, however, and will long remember the good feeling thus shown a city in distress,” says the Huntington Herald.

The drug store of Henry Shanks, at Monroeville, caught fire yesterday morning. The building was damaged to the extent of \$300 and the stock \$400. Dr. A. Engle owns the building.

STEAM'S DEADLY FORCE.

The boiler used for heating Saint Mary's Catholic Church explodes with terrible force.

Death and destruction go with it. The splendid Edifice a total wreck. Narrow escapes.

Two persons killed by the explosion. The engineer in charge and a young girl passing by.

The opinions of experts as to the cause. The inquest. The church to be rebuilt finer than ever.

Yesterday afternoon at a few minutes past 1 o'clock, a gentleman passing up the west side of Lafayette street toward Jefferson, and looking directly at the imposing front of St. Mary's Catholic church, saw a white burst of steam rise above the roof followed by a shock that almost threw him from his feet. When he looked again the splendid edifice was a tottering wreck, shattered as though bombarded for a day by a battery of artillery. The dull, heavy report reached all over the city and by many was taken for the shock of an earthquake, as it rattled windows, doors and glass and seemed to shake the very ground. The lone actual observer of the explosion states that apparently scarcely a minute had elapsed before every street leading to the vicinity of the church was crowded with people rushing to the scene of the catastrophe. Those first on the spot found lying on the wide sidewalk, directly in front of the main entrance of the church, a young girl, partially covered with one of the heavy doors that had been wrenched from its iron hinges and hurled like a cannon ball against her, crashing in her skull. Blood was flowing from her mouth and nostrils and gathering in little pools on the stones. Several recognized her as Miss. Alberta, the daughter of Mr. B. L. Willard, of Madison street, a bright girl of thirteen years, and sister of Joe Willard, of the post office force. She was breathing when found, but died just as she reached her heart-broken mother, whom she had left only a few moments before with a good-bye kiss, to hurry to school.

While little Alberta was being tenderly borne away, the crowd had gathered, and then the terrible force of the accident was realized and the cause soon ascertained. By this time, say ten minutes, flames and smoke were rising from the interior of the church, and an alarm of fire, which notified the people generally of the location of the explosion, was turned in. With the engines a Gazette reporter arrived on the scene. The police were there already driving back the crowd that surged up all around the building. St. Mary's church property comprises beside the large church a parochial school building adjoining the south side and the pastor's residence on the east and rear, these structures partially shared in the effects of the pent up steam. The church presented a scene of fearful and complete destruction. The tapering spire surmounted by the golden cross still stood intact, but that was all; the side walls were bulged out and almost ready to topple over, every window was blown out of the casings and rich stained glass hurled up into the neighboring trees, and across the streets. The rear wall was partially blown out and the

debris thrown on the roof of the priest's residence. The interior of the church was merely a chaotic mass of ruined pews, splintered wood, torn pictures, twisted organ pipes and charred and blackened timber. The cause of all this wreck was the explosion of a boiler used for heating the church and placed in the cellar underneath. Its location was just in front and centre of the altar. From here pipes radiated all over the church making a summer temperature in the coldest days. When it exploded and the mighty force was expended the organ and entire altar with all its decorations, statutes, holy vessels and sacred vestments, together with the pulpit, settled down in one pile of shattered and splintered rubbish mixed with the remnants of the boiler. The fire underneath the boiler set this on fire and when the firemen arrived the flames had to be subdued to prevent the fire from completing and making the destruction utter.

While the hose was playing on the flames inquiries were made for the old engineer Anton Evans by those who wished to enquire into the cause of the explosion, but he had not been seen since the shock and as he entered the building about five minutes before it occurred he must have been in the boiler room at the time. Soon a fireman found his cap and in about three-quarters of an hour after the flames were out, a little of the wreckage about where the front of the boiler had been was removed, and then fireman John Schroeder found the old man doubled up across a steam pipe and horribly mutilated. His face was crushed to a pulp, every bone in his body broken, his skull broken in a dozen places, his abdomen cut open, and altogether he was a ghastly sight. A stretcher was brought and the remains taken across to the boy's school and thence to Peltier's undertaking rooms, and prepared for burial, and at a late hour taken to his home near the church.

NARROW ESCAPES.

Several ladies had passed the church only a few moments before, and the school across the street and adjoining were filled with children, yet not one was injured although the windows were nearly all blown in. A little son of City Treasurer Berghoff was at the blackboard at the time, but says he only noticed a slight shock. Father Romer the assistant priest was summoned to visit a sick woman and had his hand on the church door to enter to secure the sacred host that it is usual to bear to the dying. This was only a few minutes before the explosion, but he changed his mind and departed to ascertain the exact condition of the person he had been called to see and was only a square away when the death dealing force was released. The proper prayers and services attendant at the altar on taking the host would have kept Father Romer there until the explosion and he would have met a fearful death.

Mr. J. Chas. Hahne, the fresco artist, of Dayton, Ohio, was to be at the church at one o'clock to prepare plans for frescoing the interior, but for some reason he postponed his visit until later and also escaped. The priest's residence in the rear was badly shaken up and shattered in the upper story but Miss. Oechtering, the sister of the pastor, Father Oechtering, escaped all harm.

THE CAUSE OF THE EXPLOSION.

The principal topic of course, in connection with the explosion is what caused it? The engineer, Evans, was an old man of long service in the Pittsburg shops and thoroughly competent. There was rumor on the street that he was a drinking man, and was under the influence of liquor at the time. The latter is not true, as all who saw him just before he went into the church say he was perfectly sober. There are two theories as to the cause of the accident.

One of these is of course the ordinary one of low water, red hot flues, and the sudden turning on of cold water. This theory, however, Mr. Cassanave, the master mechanic of the Pittsburg shops, and one of the finest machinists in this country, and who critically examined the remnants of the boiler, thinks is not the right one. He says the flues and seams of the boiler show no evidence of low water and the explosion was caused by an extraordinary pressure of steam. The great force of the explosion and the terrible damage done strongly support Mr. Cassanave as did the opinion of several expert boiler makers from both the Wabash and Pittsburg shops. The head of the boiler was torn off at the first row of rivets and thrown clear to the front of the church. The boiler generally carried six pounds of steam, which was ample to warm the church, and had a low pressure gauge that registered only thirty-six pounds. Steam was kept up all day during the cold weather to keep the church warm and while the engineer went to dinner, the safety valve became clogged some way, steam ran up until the indicator went clear around against the pin and the pressure rose to near 200 pounds, and when poor Evans returned he had no time to open the general valve or look after the safety before he was hurled into eternity. The boiler was put in by Shaw, Kendall & Co., of Toledo, Ohio, and was new and first class. Evans helped put up the boiler and knew perfectly well how to handle it.

NOTES.

The walls will be at once torn down.

Every pew door was blown off.

Several thousand people visited the church after the explosion.

Rev. Father Oechtering the pastor was in Milwaukee and was telegraphed for.

It was St. Mary's church and it was a peculiar touching fact that amid all the wreck of the altar, as though specially spared, the beautiful statute of the Virgin Mother was left standing unharmed.

The engineer Evans killed was the father of Mr. Joe Evans, with H. J. Ash.

The church will at once be rebuilt, finer than before and at a cost of some \$80,000.

The insurance is \$24,000 in the agencies of Henry B. Monning and Neiseiter.

The inquest began last night and will be continued to-day at 1:30 p.m. at Dr. Dinnen's office.

Father Romer last evening paid a visit to the parents of the girl killed. They are not Catholics.

Had the accident occurred at a mass it would have been the most fearful holocaust in this country.

Rev. Father Brammer and Father O'Leary were on the scene and looked after matters about the pastor's residence.

The boiler was made by Brownell & Co., of Dayton, who made the one that heats the Cathedral, church and court house in Evansville.

Several new and costly pictures of the various stations of the cross painted by a famous artist of Munnich had just arrived for the church.

SEARCHING FOR THE CAUSE.

THE INQUEST ON THE BODY OF THE FIREMAN KILLED AT ST. MARY'S CHURCH SLOWLY PROGRESSING — NO EXPLANATION YET OF THE EXPLOSION — TESTIMONY OF FATHERS OECHTERING AND ROMER, THE PRIESTS IN CHARGE.

Yesterday crowds visited the dismantled church all day long. Workmen were busy propping up the walls so that the work of tearing down the church can begin at once as Bishop Dwenger has insisted that the church must be at once rebuilt. Inside the church a force of men cleared away the ruins of the altar and recovered the gold chalice and other precious vessels. The coroner's inquest will be made a searching inquiry as to the cause of the boiler exploding and experts after they have carefully examined it will be sworn. Among them will be Master Mechanic Casanave, James Hughes, Neil McLachlan and the superintendent of the boiler department of the Bass foundry. The coroner has most minutely inquired into the habits of the engineer in charge of the boiler and the fact has been established that he was sober and a careful man. Yesterday the witnesses examined were John Schroeder of the fire department, who testified to finding the body in the ruins, John McGowan assistant chief of the fire department who assisted him, August Ott a moulder and William Schack of the fire department, who all testified to the same facts as to the location and position of the corpse as it lay under the ruins of the boiler and bent over a steam pipe. Catherine Gessler, Francis L. Furste, Joseph Derheimer, John L. Pranger and City Treasurer Berghoff all testify that the dead engineer was a sober man. The following is the testimony of Father Oechtering, Father Romer and Mr. Evan's daughter, Mrs. Scheffer, the last persons who saw the engineer alive:

Rev. C. M. Romer, being duly sworn and under oath, says: I am assistant priest at St. Mary's Catholic church. I was inside of the church twenty-five minutes to 1 o'clock on Wednesday, 13, 1886; I noticed nothing in the way of noise and did not notice any unusual amount of heat. I saw Mr. Evans on Friday, January 12th. I wanted to see him on Wednesday at about 11:30, but the door to the boiler room was closed. I have never seen Mr. Evans under the influence of liquor. He was a hard-working man and always paid attention to his duty.

(Signed) C. M. Romer.

Mrs. Catherin Scheffer, being duly sworn and under oath, says: I am a daughter of Anthony Evans; he was 72 years of age. Rev. John Ochtering desired my father to stay at my house, so that he would be on hand whenever he was wanted. He began to live with me when the boiler was finished in the church. He was given charge of the steam heating of the church by Father Oechtering. He started fire in the church on Tuesday, January 12th, in order to warm it for the children; he started the fire shortly before 6 o'clock. He went over to the church after 10 o'clock at night on Tuesday. On Wednesday, about 6 o'clock in the morning, he went to the church; he returned to the house at about 8 o'clock and eat his breakfast and went back to the church again. He came to the house again about 10 o'clock in the morning and said he had to go down town to pay a coal bill and asked me if I wanted him to do anything for me. I told him I wanted him to take a shoe to Mr. App for me and have it mended. My father came home about a quarter of twelve and went direct to the church. He came to my house again about 12:30 for dinner. He remained at the house fully half an hour. Ten minutes after he left the house I heard

the crash. I went to the door and I saw the windows &c. flying through the air and back onto Rev. Oechtering's house. My father was perfectly sober when he was in my house, and there was not a sign of liquor about him. He remarked that the boiler as long as in his charge would be perfectly safe and that no accident would happen for which he would be to blame. My father has been a machinist ever since I can remember. That was his trade. He said to me that the dinner tasted good, and he ate quite heartily. I noticed that my father was constantly worrying and thinking about the boiler in the church.

(Signed) Mrs. John Scheffer.

Rev. John Oechtering being duly sworn and under oath: I am the pastor of St. Mary's church, which is on the southeast corner of LaFayette and Jefferson streets. I employed Mr. Anthony J. Evans to take charge of the steam heating of the church about the third Sunday in November, 1885. He was highly recommended to me as an engineer and machinist. He proved himself to be just as recommended. At the time the steam heating was being put in the church he was constantly at the church, and made several improvements which the men who were sent to do the work accepted. Steam was up to fifteen pounds while Shaw and Kendall's men were present, and it was so done by them. I was informed that the boiler was tested from 200 to 250 pounds when it was in the shop. Mr. Kendall informed me that it would be perfectly safe to put the boiler in the basement of the church. I can say that Mr. Evans was a very careful man, and I never saw him have any signs of liquor about him. I saw him every time he was about the church, when he went there to fire the boiler. I went down once twice or three times every Saturday and Sunday and always found him attending to his duty. Mr. Evans carried about five pounds in the boiler and on very cold weather not more than seven pounds. The safety valve was tried several times and I was given to understand that it was in perfect working order. I considered the work done by Shaw Kendall to be perfect.

Signed. Jno. Oechtering.

To-day Coroner Dinnen will continue the inquest until he has ascertained all the facts possible and will render his verdict accordingly.

NOTES.

No insurance troubles are expected.

Joe Murphy, the actor, was a spectator at the church soon after the explosion.

There will be a meeting to-morrow evening of all the members of the congregation to make plans for future action.

The funeral of fireman Evans occurs at the Cathedral to-morrow morning between 9 and 10 o'clock. It will be a very large one.

President Charles McCallough, Hamilton bank, sent this check yesterday for \$500 the first contribution toward rebuilding.

The congregation of St. Mary's will have Sunday services conducted by Father Oechtering at 8:45 next Sunday morning at the Cathedral.

There is a meeting at 7 a.m. to-morrow of the pastor and prominent members of the church with a number of contractors to take steps to remove the walls and rebuild.

Father Oechtering was at St. Francis Seminary, six miles from Milwaukee, whither the dispatch sent him by Father O'Leary, to Milwaukee, was telephoned. This was the first

information he had of the destruction of his church, and after receiving the message at four o'clock Wednesday afternoon couldn't get a train out of Milwaukee for Chicago, until four o'clock the next morning, and reached home yesterday afternoon at two o'clock. A night and almost a day of mortal agony. On his arrival here he was met at the depot by a reception committee of his congregation, among whom were Rev. Father Duensing, of Avilla, Rev. Father Wiedan, of New Haven, Rev. Father Koenig, Henry Monning, sr., Jno. B. Monning and Andy Kalbacher, of this city. The good priest completely broke down and wept when he saw the wreck of his church.

The majority of fire alarms that are sent in nowadays are sent in by telephone.

Christ Rohyans, the well known fireman, was married Sunday evening to Miss Louise Ellisen.

The chimney of the residence of Hon. Edward O'Rourke, judge of the circuit court, burned out yesterday afternoon and created considerable excitement.

The minute men of engine house No. 2, in the Seventh ward, are going to give a dance at Arion hall April 30.

AN EARLY BLAZE.

THREE BARNS NEAR THE JAIL BURNED THIS MORNING — WORK OF AN INCENDIARY.

At half past three, city time, this morning the night watchman of the Olds Foundry and Machine works saw a flash of flame from the barn in the rear of the residence of Mr. Wm. H. Driver, No. 22 Superior street and before he could turn in an alarm the whole structure was in a blaze. The fire department was quickly on the ground but the flames fanned by a light breeze from the west quickly spread to the adjacent barns owned by Mr. Joseph Saunders and Mrs. Story, both of which were, with Mr. Dreier's entirely consumed. In the barn of Mr. Saunders was a horse belonging to Mr. Ferguson, a music teacher, which was burned to death. The fire was clearly the work of an incendiary, probably a tramp. There was little or no insurance, and the total loss will not exceed \$600 on the three buildings.

A dwelling house in South Fort Wayne opposite the organ factory burned last night.

Yesterday afternoon the fire department was called to Nebraska, where an empty ice house, just across from Oriff's mill, burned down. The building was owned by the Nickle Plate railroad company.

A SAD ACCIDENT.

CHARLEY THIEME, OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT, LOSES A LEG IN A RUNAWAY.

Yesterday afternoon Charley Thieme, of the city fire department, was engaged in moving his household goods from the Immel block, on Berry street, driving the big bay team of the fire department and the heavy city wagon. As he started off with the first load the horses started with a rush and at once got out of his control. Si Lavanway and some of the furniture were thrown out and the horses dashed furiously east on Berry street, shieing in toward the sidewalk near the Academy of Music. At this time Thieme was clinging to the dashboard with his right leg hanging down in front of the axle, and when the wagon collided with the big heavy post there, the leg was horribly crushed, just below the knee, between the axle and the post, the bones being broken in a dozen pieces and protruding through the flesh. Officer Schraeder was directly across the street and hurried with others to the rescue. The blood was flowing in torrents and the wagon is yet all stained and bloody. Thieme was taken to the engine house and laid on a cot. He was conscious and begged pitifully that his leg should not be cut off. The firemen then carried him on a cot to the City hospital, where Doctors H. S. Myers and Dinnen amputated the leg directly below the knee. At a late hour last evening he was resting quietly and if no internal injuries develope will probably recover. A host of friends regret this terrible occurrence as Charlie was one of the most popular boys on the force. His father is Andy Thieme, the Broadway grocer, and he is a son-in-law of Mr. Henry Immel.

Charlie Thieme, the fireman injured in the runaway, was resting easy last night although suffering at times great pain from the amputated limb.

If the stage door in the Masonic Temple is wide enough a fire engine will be put on the stage next Tuesday evening.

Mrs. Con Schenck has presented to Chief Hilbrecht a handsome silver horn given her husband by the Hope Hose Company in 1871.

At 2 o'clock this morning the fire department was called to the corner of the Maumee road and Division street, where Brooks grocery store was on fire. The building was saved. Damage to stock by flames and water, about \$300; insured.

Henry Immel has a picture of himself taken twenty-five years ago, when he was a member of the hook and ladder company. Mrs. Con Schenck found it among her late husband's effects. Henry will have it enlarged and put a big gold frame on it.

On Decoration day Chief Hilbrecht will have the fire department make a test run to an imaginary fire in a contest for the championship of the United States. Fire departments all over the country will contest and the results telegraphed by judges to Washington, D. C., where the decision will be announced.

There was a small blaze at Barcus' candy store, on Calhoun street, last night, caused by the exploding of the gasoline stove in the back part of the store. The damage was slight and the boy is supposed to be blame.

The residence of Wm. Franke in Madison township, burned yesterday. He is a brother of Officer Franke, of this city.

CITY COUNCIL.

It was decided to pave the yard in the rear of the Second ward engine house with cedar blocks.

The election of officers was then declared in order. Messrs. Doehrman and Michael were named tellers, and Mr. Henry Hilbrecht being nominated for chief of the fire department, he received the unanimous vote of the council.

The large barn once belonging to Si Tam, corner Clinton and Hamilton streets, was destroyed by fire last evening. Loss on building, \$600. It had been vacant for some time, and was doubtless ignited by tramps.

The dwelling of James Cunnison, in Pleasant township, was destroyed by fire about midnight last night. Nearly everything in the house was burned. The building was insured in the insurance company of North America, James E. Graham & Son, agents.

Charley Thieme, the member of the fire department whose leg was torn off in a runaway accident seven weeks ago, was able to ride out, on Sunday last, and yesterday was able to go to his father's house, on Broadway, for dinner. Dr. Dinnen will soon adjust a wooden leg. The recovery is a remarkably good one.

There was a little fire at Captain Reese's house, on Montgomery street, yesterday afternoon. No particular damage.

E. L. CHITTENDEN DEAD.

HIS DEATH OCCURS AT TEN MINUTES PAST THREE THIS MORNING.

It will be sad news to a large circle of friends and the entire city of Fort Wayne to learn of the death of Hon. Erastus L. Chittenden, which occurred at ten minutes past three this morning, caused by Brights disease of the kidneys.

THE LAST OF EARTH.

DEATH OF HON. ERASTUS L. CHITTENDEN - ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE FUNERAL.

No sadder news has ever been conveyed to this community than that the Gazette bore Saturday morning in its announcement of the death of Hon. Erastus L. Chittenden. It could scarcely be realized and its confirmation was required on every hand. To the deceased, the Sentinel of last evening, paid the following tribute:

Hon. Erastus L. Chittenden died yesterday at 3 o'clock a.m., at his home on West Berry street. For a number of years Mr. Chittenden has suffered from a form of Bright's disease, and although assured it must some day prove fatal, his genial disposition dispelled the cloud and he circled among his host of friends in all his brightness. A week or so ago he was stricken suddenly ill and his case presented a dangerous phase, but his immediate friends never anticipated the sudden end that shocked them and saddened the community yesterday morning. The doctors did not realize instant danger, and in fact, Drs. B. S. Woodworth and W. H. Meyers arranged for a consultation yesterday morning. It was too late, for in the presence of his wife, daughter, brother and mother, Mr. Chittenden passed away as if in a dream. He realized not that he was dying and spoke not a word as tender hearts bent in grief about his bedside.

Mr. Chittenden was born in New York City, and was in his fifty-second year. He served as city clerk from 1863 to 1869. He was also an assistant in the office of county clerk, was long the representative of the Third ward in the council, held other responsible and important positions, and served honorably and with distinction one term in the state legislature. In his youth he participated in all the local affairs and his reminiscences of events and men were always interesting. He leaves not an enemy in the world and a mountain of good acts stand as a monument to his memory. He has contributed to local history and the press sketches of the lives of most all the prominent men in the city, now dead, little dreaming that his own would come so soon. He was always light-hearted and his face beaming with kindness and good will. No more genial companion, agreeable friend or better citizen ever lived. He leaves a place in the hearts of a wide circle of acquaintances that no man can fill, and he goes down to his grave with the esteem, love and respect of everyone who knew him.

Mr. Chittenden leaves a wife, daughter and mother, to whom he was devoted. His brother, Ward B. Chittenden, of the boot and shoe firm of Abner & Co., St. Louis, is in the city.

Mr. Chittenden's funeral occurs Tuesday afternoon at 4 o'clock, under the auspices of the Knights Templar, who have charge of all arrangements. The services will be at Trinity Episcopal church, where he was communicant.

A PAIR OF FIRES.

This morning an alarm of fire from box 4-3 took the Seventh ward department to the frame residence Frederick Freidlein, No. 68 LaSalle street. The loss which is placed at \$200 was to the rear portion of the house. Shortly afterwards the department was called to a burning barn a considerable distance beyond the old Reidmiller brewery in the Fifth ward. The barn was completely destroyed. The alarm came from box 3-6 corner of Union and Pritchard streets.

Last evening the clothing of a servant in the house of Wabash Ticket Agent J. B. McConnell, took fire from a gasoline stove at which she was ironing. The flames were extinguished without any serious results. The fire department from the Seventh Ward engine was on hand, but no water was thrown.

THE CITY COUNCIL.

A resolution instructing the Committee on Fire to advertise for bids for changing the fire alarm system from an open to a closed circuit, and for a new hose cart, was adopted.

A BIG FIRE.

DESTRUCTIVE CONFLAGRATION AT THE CASPER KERN FARM YESTERDAY.

After the News had gone to press yesterday, intelligence was received of the burning of the barn on the Casper Kern estate, with valuable contents. The farm is reached by the Maysville gravel road after a journey of four and a half miles. Mr. Jacob Kern, Deputy County Clerk, furnishes the Journal with the following interesting particulars:

The fire was first discovered shortly after 2 o'clock, by a young lady who makes her home with Mrs. Kern. She was standing in front of her house when she suddenly saw flames bursting through the roof of the barn. She at once gave the alarm, and some neighbors who discovered the fire about the same time, hurried to the place. Within ten minutes, probably, from the time the flames were first discovered, there were no less than 100 people on the premises. Three gangs of threshers in the vicinity reached the farm about the same time, bringing with them their water wagons used in supplying the engines, and it is mostly due their almost superhuman efforts that the house was saved from destruction too. The barn was a large frame structure, 90 x 45 feet in dimensions and was nearly filled with the present year's hay and wheat crop. It was at once apparent that there was no salvation for the barn, and every effort was turned to saving the house, which stood not over 100 feet away. Fortunately, there was very little wind, and what there was, was in the direction from the house. All the furniture was speedily removed by willing hands, the doors and windows were taken out, and the carpets and bed clothing were saturated with water and spread over the roof and side next to the burning barn. The heat was intense, but the hardy farmers stood their ground and kept the carpets, etc., deluged with water all the while and succeeded in saving the house. The barn, wagon shed, corn-crib, cattle shed and other out buildings were entirely consumed together with their contents. In the barn there were about forty loads of hay, the wheat crop from twenty acres, three horses, one of which was valued at \$350, two calves and a lot of farming machinery, such as mowers, reapers, wagons and etc., all of which were destroyed. The entire loss is estimated at about \$3,500, upon which there was an insurance in the Adams Township Mutual for \$1,800 or just about one-half.

The origin of the fire is unknown, no one having been in the building for at least an hour prior to the breaking out of the flames. The theory of spontaneous combustion in the hay mow is advanced by some, and the theory is not altogether improbable, as instances of a similar nature are quite frequently reported. Mr. Lunce, a neighbor, was overcome by the heat and fell, injuring himself somewhat but not seriously.

For several years past Mr. Jacob Kern had taken out a special policy on grain stored in the barn at the Kern farm and kept up the policy until after the grain was sold. This year he forgot the matter, and yesterday the barn and contents were burned.

At the conflagration at the Kern farm yesterday, young Frankie Maier, son of the county clerk, being unable to save property, contributed to the excitement by tugging at the rope of the farm belfry until it broke. Frank had assembled the farmers from miles around.

BARN BURNERS.

SET FIRE TO FRED TROUTMAN'S STABLE LAST NIGHT.

Fred Troutman, truckman, was awakened at half past one o'clock this morning at his residence, 115 Wilt street, by neighbors, who told him his barn was burning. The alarm was timely and a few buckets of water extinguished the flames.

This morning upon examination there was found under the sills of the barn a number of balls of cotton waste well saturated with oil. Mr. Troutman is at a loss to know who his enemy may be.

COL. HUMPHREY.

THE HERO OF TWO WARS DIES AT NOON TO-DAY.

SKETCH OF HIS EVENTFUL LIFE.

The News of yesterday stated that Colonel George Humphrey was sinking rapidly. Death came to his relief at twenty minutes after the clock had struck the noon hour, to-day, at his residence, No. 175 West Berry street. He had been in robust health until two months ago when he received a fall, resulting in a fracture of his limb. From this he had so completely recovered as to be able to attend to business, the union being complete. One week ago erysipelas supervened. This was followed by extreme prostration and death.

His son, James, a clerk in the U. S Railway Mail Service, reached home this morning, and all members were present when the old hero slept into eternity.

Colonel Humphrey was born February 2, 1825, at Irvine, Ayrshire, Scotland, whence he emigrated to America, landing in New York July 5, 1837, and came to Fort Wayne with his brother, James Humphrey, September 30, 1837, coming up the Maumee in a pirogue, that being the only way of reaching here in that day, except by wagon. He served an apprenticeship with Charles G. French, the builder, and afterwards worked for four years as a master carpenter.

On the breaking out of the war with Mexico, in 1846, he was a member of the "Mad Anthony Guards," which tendered their services to Governor Whitcomb. The command afterwards became known as Company E., First Indiana Mexican Volunteers. Mr. Humphrey was the First Sergeant, but soon was appointed to a Second Lieutenancy, and served with honor at Metamoras, Monterey and Santilla. After the war he returned to Fort Wayne and married Miss. Bingham, daughter of Rev. A. S. Bingham, of Eel River township.

In 1858 he established himself in business, and was a prosperous manufacturer, when the opening, in 1861, of the rebellion, re-kindled his martial spirit.

He raised troops at the second call of the Governor, and went with them to Indianapolis, but the State quota for the three month's service was more than filled, and these men were reorganized as the Twelfth Indiana Volunteers, and were retained for State service for a period of twelve months. John M. Wallace was elected colonel, Wm. H. Link, lieutenant colonel and George Humphrey major, and these elections the Governor confirmed. On the resignation of Colonel Wallace, he was advanced to the colonelcy. The regiment had a bloody experience in Virginia.

At the end of his term of service, he returned to Fort Wayne and raised the 88th Indiana, of which he was commissioned colonel. The regiment participated in the battles of Perryville, Chickamauga, Stone River, the battle of the Tullahoma campaign and other historical conflicts.

In a charge made by his brigade, which checked the enemy's advance at Stone River, a minnie ball pierced his shoulder, and was not removed until seven years after. The regiment had been greatly depleted and his factory at home was burned in his absence. On these accounts he resigned to give his private affairs attention. Afterwards Governor Morton tendered him the command of the 139th, a newly raised regiment, with which he performed good service in

Sherman's Atlanta campaign. His last position under the government was the first superintendent of the federal building now in course of construction at Fort Wayne.

In business affairs he has been prominent for many years as a member of the firm of Cochrane & Humphrey. In private life he was highly esteemed for the nobility of his nature and his love of humor and strict integrity. He leaves a wife, three daughters and two sons. The funeral will probably be on Sunday.

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Saturday

08/07/1886

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FULL OF HONORS.

FUNERAL OF COL. GEORGE HUMPHREY - LAST TRIBUTE OF SOLDIERS & CITIZENS.

As the News goes to press this afternoon, the muffled drums of the Knight Templar Drum Corps beat mournfully on West Berry street. The drummers are leading the long procession that slowly moves from 175 West Berry street to the beautiful Lindenwood, the city of the dead, where sleep so many of the good and bravest.

The funeral of Colonel George Humphrey has been the occasion of an unusual convocation of old soldiers and citizens, come to pay honors to the distinguished dead. From all over the State and from other States there have come those who followed their old commander through the bloody battles of Perryville, Stone River, Chattanooga, Chickamauga and on the March to the Sea to the battle of Bentonville, where the 88th regiment sustained its greatest losses.

The old battle flags, mere shreds of their former gay selves, are carried at the head of the long column, wreathed in black. One was presented by the ladies of Fort Wayne, the other by the State of Indiana.

The Fort Wayne Veterans Company L., 1st Regiment, form the guard of honor about the hearse. They march with arms reversed. Following come his old commands, or rather a remnant of them, a hundred men or more, gathered from the ranks of the 12th, the 88th and the 139th Indiana. They are commanded by the Adjutant of the 88th, H. B. DuBarry, whose left sleeve is empty. The two Grand Army Posts, Sion S.B. and Anthony Wayne follows, and the Caledonian Club. Last come the citizens and family friends in a long line of carriages.

Pastor Northrup has preached an eloquent sermon at the house, and the Haydn Quartette sang. The soldiers will fire a salute over the grave. May he sleep well.

\$3,000 FIRE.**WILLIAM LAHMAN'S BIG LOSS IN LAFAYETTE TOWNSHIP.**

At 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon the large bank barn of Farmer William Lahman, ten miles southwest of the city, caught fire by spontaneous combustion, as is supposed, and was entirely consumed. The loss is fully \$3,000, and the insurance was but \$1,100, in the Farmer's Mutual Insurance Company, which had the policy on the big barn of the Kerns' estate. The barn was in Lafayette township, a mile south of the Wabash track, and near Giddings' saw mill. The property destroyed consisted in part of all of this year's crops of wheat, oats and hay, 500 bushels of last year's wheat crop, all the harness and much more of value. The horses were saved.

This morning a fire in the small brick residence, No. 51 Barr street, caused a nominal damage. The building is the property of Hon. Isaac Jenkinson, of Richmond, Ind.

Yesterday afternoon during the thunder storm, lightning struck the large barn of Conrad Tillker, a prosperous Wayne township farmer, completely consuming the building with its valuable contents. Tillker is the man who said when Hayes was made President that he would not cut his hair until a Democratic president was elected. He kept his word and when Cleveland was chosen the hair cutting was made a social event of the neighborhood. Tillker was placed in a chair in his front yard and his long locks were shorn and there was drinking and merry-making.

Charley Thieme, of the Fort Wayne Fire Department, will shortly perambulate in a wooden limb, which will supply the place of the one lost in the terrible runaway accident of last winter.

The committee on fire department and finance of the city government will meet next week to agree upon the best system of fire alarm boxes to be used. The agent of the Gamewell Company is confident that his system will be adopted.

Last evening the committee on fire department and the finance committee met and decided to recommend to the City Council, the purchase of the Gamewell System of fire alarm telegraph. Chief Engineer Hilbrecht highly endorses it.

The engine room of the Chicago and Atlantic Railway shops at Huntington took fire yesterday morning and was entirely destroyed.

Last evening an alarm from box 1-6, called the department to T. B. Hedekin's building, No. 1 Railroad street. There was damage to the basement to about \$100. The basement was used as a shop by a shoemaker named Havens.

GREAT FIRE.

HALF A BUSINESS BLOCK AT KENDALLVILLE A CRUMBLING RUIN.

LOSS UPWARDS OF \$50,000. THE FORT WAYNE DEPARTMENT CALLED UPON.

Last night the people of the neighboring city of Kendallville were aroused about midnight by the cries of fire and the ringing of bells. Kendallville is not a very large town and their fire apparatus is not the best, and their source of supply for water is a lake a half mile away from the town.

The fire when discovered was blazing out from the rear of Lohman's drug store on Main street, the sixth door south of the Kelly House. A number of citizens with buckets were soon there, and the chemical engine, spurting against the rear windows, and after the fire broke the glass, partially into the building, but with no effect whatever. The fire burst forth more energetically and a slight breeze bearing northeastward, the blaze was carried to the woodsheds filled with oil barrels in the rear, setting the adjoining building on fire from the rear, and, rushing across the block northeastward to Mitchell street, setting the Loeb & Hall livery barn, east of Kelly House, then eastward to several wood structures to the Banta building, an old pressed brick two-story structure occupied by Baker & Son, on the corner of Mitchell and State street. While this devastation was going on in the rear, the buildings adjoining Lohman, Emerson and Severance on the south, and all the buildings up to the Kelly House were being burned out. The ground is fire swept around the Kelly House, across the block on the east, and half the block on the south. The house itself is badly scorched and but for the iron shutters on the south side, would have gone with the rest.

An immense quantity of merchandise was carried out of nearly all the commercial houses, and piled up on the opposite side of the street.

Mayor Charles Aichele telegraphed to Fort Wayne for assistance by the fire department.

The cause of the fire is unknown. It began in the rear of the Brust building, occupied by George H. Lohman, druggist.

The fire would have been stayed sooner but for the fact that small frame buildings in the rear of the brick blocks increased the fury of the flames.

The Seely building, occupied by John Emerson, grocer, and S. F. Severance, hardware merchant, was damaged to the extent of \$3,000 on the building. The Pike building which stood next suffers only the loss of the removal of the stock.

On Mitchell street the losses are: Hall & Loeb, livery barn; stock all saved; the building had an insurance of \$1,000. T. L. Groves' building, occupied as a laundry; building insured. Two small wood structures, occupied as residences, with paint and shoe shops in front; buildings owned by M. M. Bowen; no insurance. Banta building, occupied by Baker & Son, lamp manufacturers; contents mostly saved.

At 2 o'clock this morning, the Mayor of Kendallville telegraphed Mayor Muhler, stating the distressing situation and asked that assistance be sent them. Chief Hilbrecht immediately set to work for the relief of the stricken city.

The G. R. & I. Ry. Company generously gave sufficient transportation, as Supt. O'Rourke did in the matter of the Decatur fire. The apparatus was about to be loaded, when a despatch came stating that the fire was under control, and the sending of assistance became unnecessary.

The Kelly House, the principal hotel of the city, was saved with much trouble. Guests vacated their rooms. Baggage was stacked up in the office, and everybody prepared to move out.

Like Warsaw, like Decatur, the City Council of Kendallville will find out that the purchase of a fire engine or two is the proper thing. They come high, but we must have 'em.

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The Committee on Fire Department has decided to recommend the Gamewell Fire Alarm system. There will be new boxes throughout the city. The expense will \$3,300.

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A barn belonging to Mr. Kaempe, of Fred Eckart's, was destroyed by fire this morning, on West Lewis street.

THE FIRE DEMON.

WAGNER'S DRUG STORE RECEIVES A CLOSE CALL, AND WHAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN A
DISASTROUS CONFLAGRATION IS PREVENTED BY THE EFFICIENCY OF THE
FIRE DEPARTMENT.

This morning about 9 o'clock, the fire alarm, sounding 61, called the fire department to the corner of Calhoun and Main streets, where heavy volumes of black smoke were seen issuing from the first and second stories of H. G. Wagner's handsome drug store. The department got to work early, and in a few moments several streams of water were turned on the fire which was found to be in the basement of the building. A half hour had elapsed before the fire fiend was conquered and the flames extinguished. The cause of the fire was due to the accidental burning of a can of varnish. One of the clerks, a young boy named George Kreig, went into the cellar to fill a can of varnish for a customer, and while he was doing so the varnish caught from the gas, which was a few feet above him, and instantly everything about him was on fire. The boy's face and hair were covered with varnish and he beat a hasty retreat to the store above, receiving some bad burns about the face but suffering no severe injury. The cellar was deluged with water and the floor of the storeroom, over which the hose run, was pretty thoroughly soaked.

The damage will probably amount to several hundred dollars which is fully covered by insurance in three companies, but as Mr. Wagner was absent from the store, the News reporter could not get the names of the companies.

The fire might have been a very disastrous one, as the drug store is in the heart of the business center of the city, and had not the department, by their efficient work, so early mastered the flames, the stock and building would have been more seriously injured, and the flames might have spread to the adjoining store rooms.

A heavy rain was descending at the time of the fire, and this with the bursting of the hose in several places, gave the crowd who assembled on the street a bad ducking.

The heavy smoke that issued from the second-story windows caused many to think that the fire located there, but this came up from the cellar through the elevator and filled the room.

The fearless firemen descended into the cellar and attacked the flames at the right place to prevent them from spreading. To Chief Hilbrecht and his able corps of assistants is due much praise.

A CARD OF THANKS

TO THE FORT WAYNE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

Gents: - We desire in this manner to tender to you, one and all, our heartfelt thanks for your intelligent and successful efforts in suppressing the fire at our store yesterday. The fire had gained good headway and, but for your services, our stock and building, and possibly much other property, might have been destroyed in a devastating conflagration. We feel that not only our thanks are due to you; but we also feel that the city of Fort Wayne is to be congratulated in having a department officered and manned by a capable and efficient force. We often hear it said, "How lucky Fort Wayne is in not having any bad fires." We rather say how lucky she is in having a fire department that knows how to extinguish them.

Dr. and Mrs. H. G. Wagner.

The fire department was called to the Seventh Ward at 8 o'clock, last night, to extinguish a burning dwelling house belonging to G. W. Bowen. Loss about \$200.

The fire department complain of the police authorities that they refuse to furnish them cards showing the location of fire boxes, and consequently when an alarm is sent in the fire department are at sea as to the location of the fire.

The fire department was called to a brick dwelling, 121 East Main street, at 10 o'clock this morning to extinguish a burning roof, which had been ignited from a defective chimney. The prompt action of the firemen checked the flames, and the damage, which was only to the roof, was slight. The house belonged to Jefferson Dickerson and was occupied by the Rev. J. P. Lloyd.

Joseph B. Fry, the ex-Chief of the Fire Department, is lying dangerously ill at his residence in this city.

The frame barn of Frank McBennett, at 410 Lafayette street, took fire this morning at 10 o'clock and although the fire department was promptly on hand, the building and its contents was a total loss. The barn was used as a carpenter shop and had a quantity of lumber stored in it, besides carpenter tools. The lumber was valued at \$150 and the total loss will be \$350.

The Fire Department was called to the corner of Hanna and Wallace streets this afternoon, on account of two burning dwellings. One of the houses belonged to Robert Wilson, and was entirely destroyed. Loss, \$800.

The alarm of fire this morning was caused by the burning of the kitchen of a dwelling house belonging to Frank McBennet, at 410 Lafayette street. The fire department was on the scene promptly and the flames were soon extinguished without doing much damage. On Wednesday Mr. McBennett suffered a \$300 loss by the burning of his carpenter shop on the same lot. It seems as if fires were coming on him pretty thick and fast.

Last evening the Alert Hook and Ladder Company, the oldest Volunteer fire company in Indiana, held a meeting for the purpose of closing up the affairs of the organization. It was resolved to divide the cash money in the treasury equally between the Reform Lutheran and Catholic orphanages, and to sell the hats, belts, trumpets and other property and divide the proceeds equally between the institutions named.

The invitations are out for the wedding of August Hilgeman, the well known member of the Fire Department, to Miss. Louisa Crouskop, the daughter of Ernest Crouskop. The event takes place on the 28th inst., at the residence of the bride's parents at the corner of Baker street and Fairfield avenue.

OUR FIRE LADDIES.

SOMETHING ABOUT THE BOYS WHO PROTECT OUR PUBLIC AND BUSINESS BUILDINGS
AND SAVE OUR HOMES FROM THE RAVAGES OF THE FIRE FIEND.

The Fire Department of our city is one that the citizens of Fort Wayne have good reason to be proud of, and a few words said about the boys may be of interest to some of the readers of the News. With this end in view our reporter dropped into their quarters last night, and found the boys a pleasant, good natured set of fellows and very different from what one would judge them to be when rushing through the streets to a fire or around a burning building.

The Department is all under pay and is composed of what are called regulars and minute men. At the central engine house, located on Berry and Court streets, there are six men under full pay, eight horses, one steamer, two hose carts and one truck or hook and ladder wagon, with the Chief's buggy, while eighteen men, most of whom sleep in the building, are subject to call. At the other engine house, located in the Seventh Ward, there is a steamer and a hose cart, with three regular men, four horses and five minute men. The Department is under splendid discipline and the horses are so well drilled that within ten seconds from the time the alarm is sounded they are in their harness and with the men on the apparatus, ready to start to the fire. The exciting scene of the horses, with their drivers and men rushing through the streets on a mad gallop is a familiar sight, but the men and animals enjoy it and the celerity with which they reach their destination, attach the hose to the hydrant, and have streams of water pouring on the burning building, is almost marvelous.

The minute men are employed in other avocations, but are expected to be on duty when a fire occurs. There are twenty of them in all and they receive \$10 a month. The men under full pay are, Henry Hilbrecht, the chief, and Henry Sanders, August Hilgeman, Christ Rohyans, Silas Lavanway, Henry Stohl, John Schroeder, Mike Conners and Conrad Drieblebiss. Chief Hilbrecht receives \$100 a month, and the wages of the nine other full pay men run from \$50 to \$75 a month, while the pay of the two assistants chiefs of the minute men, Fred Baker and John McGowan is \$17 a month. The roster of the minute men is: Fred Michael, John Baker, A. J. Piepenbrink, John Zent, Daniel Harrold, Charles Becker, George Brenner, Gotleib Steup, Simon Boerger, Wm. Linderman, Fred Reinking, Edward Immel, Charles Sheldon, John Daley, Asa Lewis, Henry Becker, Emil DeGraw, Wm. Schack, Frank Rosenberger, August Tremmel, Henry Rosenberger, Otto Haus and Emmil Dunfee.

The efficiency of our Fire Department has been the means of preventing many a disastrous conflagration and to their coolness in the hour of danger and the courage of the brave minute men, the city of Fort Wayne is indebted to her safety from the dangers of the fire fiend.

The fire department are putting in a large number of poles through the city, and most of the old boxes are being removed and replaced by new ones. About seven miles of wire are being hung, and when the repairs and improvements are completed, the fire alarm will be in a splendid condition.

The alarm of fire which was sounded this morning, at 9:30 o'clock, was caused by the men, who are working about the wires in different parts of the city in repairing, either cutting or coming in contact with them. The alarm brought the horses to their carts and the men in position to start, but it was immediately learned that the alarm was a false one, and they did not get out on the street.

Charley Thieme, the popular young former member of the fire department who met with an accident last April, that resulted in the loss of his right leg, has returned from Chicago, where he went a few days ago to order an artificial limb. He succeeded in getting one that suits him and it will be here some time this week. Charley was a brave and efficient hose cart driver, and his many friends will be glad to see him around on two legs again.

Last night, at 7 o'clock, the bed-clothes in a sleeping room occupied by Christ Wolfert, over the Union saloon, No. 7 East Main street, took fire in some way, and dense volumes of smoke issued into the hall. John Wagner, the proprietor of the saloon, burst the door open and in removing the bed, burned his left hand severely, but extinguished the flames and prevented what might have been a serious fire.

Last night Gus Hilgeman of the Fire Department, was married to Miss. Louisa Crouskop, at the St. John's Reformed church, and after the ceremony a reception was given at the residence of the groom's parents on Baker street, at which a number of invited guests were present.

The fire department has purchased a new hose wagon. It is a magnificent vehicle and cost \$247.

The fire committee have purchased eight rubber coats and caps to be placed in the Seventh ward engine house and to be used by the firemen when on duty.

FIERCE FLAMES.

THE STABLE OF THE STREET RAILWAY COMPANY DESTROYED BY THE FIERY ELEMENT.

One of the most disastrous fires that the city has had for some time broke out last night about 6 o'clock, and called the fire department to the stables of the street railroad company near the Pittsburg railroad depot. The building was in flames when the department arrived on the scene and immediately several streams were turned on the blazing mass, the flames from which shot high up in the air and illuminated the vicinity as bright as day. The fire originated in the stables and soon spread to the long row of frame buildings owned by James Fox, and occupied by Wilson & Son, coal and wood dealers. The wood, kindling and other inflammable material in this building added to the fury of the flames, and the Fire Department was compelled to turn some of the streams of water on adjoining buildings to prevent them from threatened destruction. It was a full hour before the flames from the burning buildings could be subdued; but not before both of them were almost a mass of ruin. The horses and street cars and other valuable property in the street car stable were removed soon after the fire commenced to a place of safety. The loss of the street car company is estimated to be \$6,000, on which they had an insurance of \$2,400; and the loss on the Fox buildings will be \$200, and that of Wilson & Sons the same, neither of whom had any insurance. The origin of the fire can be traced to no reliable source although many rumors are afloat as to the cause.

The fire department did efficient work, and had it not been for their heroic efforts in subduing the flames, the fire would have been communicated to many adjoining buildings, some of which did commence burning, but were quickly extinguished by streams of water.

THE FIRE ALARM.

THE NEW IMPROVEMENTS THAT ARE BEING MADE.

For some time past the Fire Department have been engaged in repairing and rearranging the fire alarm telegraph wires and boxes for the introduction of the improvements in the fire alarm that the city has adopted. The old system, which used the earth to complete the circuit, was unsatisfactory and defective and led to many delays and mistakes. To remedy this, the city adopted what is called the Gamewell Fire Alarm, and they are now going to use the new interference signal boxes, which are so perfect in their mechanism that it is utterly impossible for any other than correct signals to be transmitted, and when once started cannot be interfered with in any way. Their efficiency consists in their entire freedom from interference of one box with another and their perfect security from dust, rain or harm from any cause. With them, mistakes and false alarms are almost impossible and the alarms are sent in with a greater speed and accuracy.

The Gamewell Fire Alarm is considered superior to all others and it is now in use in New York, Chicago, Cincinnati and most of the other larger cities. The fire department have added about eight miles of new wire to their line, and when completed they will have over twenty-six miles of wire stretched through the city. The apparatus for the fire alarm has not yet been received; its arrival having been delayed from some cause or other, but as soon as it arrives it will be placed in shape, when the city of Fort Wayne will have as good a fire alarm as there is in the country. New batteries will be placed in the upper room of the central engine house and the wires be made to run into the rear part of the building instead of at the front as they now do

This morning at 5 o'clock the fire department were called to the corner of Holman and Lafayette streets by a burning barn. The building belonged to Henry Brown, a truckman for two or three wholesale houses, and was about half destroyed before the flames could be quenched. The horses, wagons, etc., were taken out and no damage resulted, except to the building.

The fire committee of the City Council reported adversely to the petition asking for fire alarm boxes at the corner of Broadway and Taylor streets, the corner of Holton and Creighton avenues, and the corner of Lafayette and Dewald streets.

CARD OF THANKS.

At the late meeting of the board of trustees of the Reformed Orphans' Home, held at the parsonage of the Salem Reformed church, the board was informed by the superintendent of the home that the former "Alert" Hook and Ladder Company, of Fort Wayne, which was recently dissolved, had bequeathed the property belonging to said company, consisting, besides a nice sum of cash, of fifty-two hats, four trumpets, sixteen large pictures and several other things, to be equally divided between the two orphan homes in the city. The report was favorably received and was on motion.

Resolved, That the Superintendent, Rev. J. Rettig, be requested to render unto the members of said company, in this public manner, the thanks of the board for their kindness shown the institution. The same time we express our warmest thanks to those that have so cheerfully given aid in procuring a nice large wagon for our orphan children.

The following have donated: Mrs. J. B. White, \$5, Mrs. E. J. Hamilton, \$5, Mrs. M. V. Hamilton, \$6, Mrs. Dr. G. T. Bruebach, \$1, Mr. Julius Linderman, \$5. "God loveth a cheerful giver."

J. Rettig, Supt.

An alarm of fire yesterday afternoon brought the fire department to No. 55 Lillie street, where some barrels, boxes and other traps had caught fire in a barn belonging to August Schrage. The flames were extinguished before the department arrived, and their services were not needed.

A burning chimney in the Harrington Block on Fairfield avenue, gave the Fire Department a long and cold run at 6:30 o'clock this morning. It was the first opportunity the Department have had for using their new hose wagon, which was placed on the floor of the central engine house yesterday. The wagon is a beauty. It carries 800 feet of hose and this thrown into the bed of the wagon in a shape that it is much more convenient for use than it is on the old style hose carts. The boys are proud of their new wagon.

Last night at 7 o'clock the fire department was called to the corner of Oliver and Horace streets, by a fire that had broken out at that point. The building was a one story frame belonging to George Casteel, and was occupied by George Cook, as a grocery store. The fire originated in some was about the counters, and although it made a tremendous volume of smoke, but little damage was done to the building. The fire department soon subdued the flames, but the damage to the stock of goods by smoke and water was considerable.

The Fire Department was called this morning about 9 o'clock to the corner of Clinton and Main streets by a burning chimney in the brick building of John Baker, occupied by E. C. Yetter's second-hand store.

The Committee on Fire Department awarded the contract for furnishing rubber service coats, for the firemen, to Sam, Pete & Max, whose garments were pronounced the best and prices lower than that of the leading manufacturers of the country.

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- "-

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